

THE North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

Vol. XXXII., No. 873. SHANGHAI, MARCH 26, 1884. PRICE, Tls. 12 7/8 AN.

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PICKWOOD & Co.,

Proprietors.

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7th July, 1882,

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CAUTION.—Vice-Chancellor Sir W. Page Wood stated that Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE was, undoubtedly, the Inventor of CHLORODYNE; that the story of the defendant, Freeman, was deliberately untrue, which, he regretted to say, has been sworn to.—See Times, July 13, 1864.

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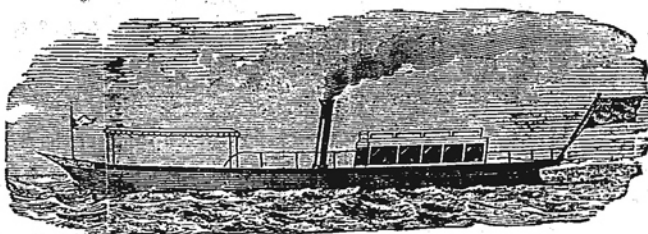
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6th July, 1883.

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The Friend to All.

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Has there ever been a malignant sore, an old ulcer, or a wound of any kind to which this unrivalled "Heal all" has been applied in vain; "certainly not," answer grateful thousands. Even those ulcerous sores arising from nameless causes which sap the very existence of the young and strongest, and which a course of Mercury can never cure, always yield to the influence of this renowned Ointment, when perseveringly used in conjunction with the Pills.

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GOLD MEDAL,

PARIS, 1878.



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North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XXXII., No. 873.

SHANGHAI, MARCH 26, 1884.

PRICE, Tls. 12 7/8 AN.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

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Sau Francisco ..	" 10	Yokohama, ...	" 14
Hongkong, ...	Mar. 21	Nagasaki, ...	" 22
Tientsin, ...	" 17	Soochow, ...	" 19

The English mail of 13th February arrived in London on the 23th March.

BIRTHS.

At Shanghai, on the 21st instant, the wife of A. VITA, of a son.

At Shanghai, on 24th March, the wife of the Ven. Archdeacon MOULE, of a son.

The publication of the North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette commenced at 5.00 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, WEDNESDAY, MAR. 26, 1884.

THE fall of Bacninh and the subsequent successes of the French in Tonquin bring the necessity of immediate decision before the Cabinet of Peking. The two parties there, of peace or war, will soon either require to measure their strength against each other in a final struggle, or a fusion may take place between them to some extent which as will make a consistent policy possible. The rulers of this country cannot subject it to all the dangers which would be involved in merely interposing devices to obtain delay. Even if they were to attempt to do so, France would not consent to remain idle with her fleets and troops in Tonquin, while the Tsung-li Yamen and the Ambassadors in Europe were trying expedient after expedient to minimise the results of the unfortunate policy which the rulers at Peking have pursued on the Tonquin question. There is no reason to believe that that portion of the Chinese statesmen whose knowledge of the power of their own country, and the power of such a nation as France, enables them to form a just estimate of the probable results of a war, entertain any idea of encouraging a mere policy of delay. They must see that the time for settlement is at hand, and that a frank acceptance of the actual circumstances in which their country is placed will best serve her. In order that the Tsung-li Yamen should arrive at such a sensible condition of mind as will enable a rational policy to be now entered on with France, it will be necessary that the war or anti-foreign party at Peking should be completely overcome, or silenced for a season. The fall of Bacninh should be almost sufficient in itself to accomplish this. The war party in China, such as P'eng Yü-lin, the Prince of Ch'üan, and Chang Pei-lun, must have greatly misled the Empress as to the strength of their own forces and of those of the French. There is reason to believe that they had inspired Her Majesty and a large section of her advisers with the greatest confidence in their ability to cope with the forces assembled for the assault of Bacninh. They allowed it to fall into the hands of the invaders, apparently without striking a blow in its defence,

and consequently the Empress has been greatly incensed, T'ang Chiung, the able Governor of Yunnan, being included in her resentment. The result which most chiefly interests us, and all foreigners, is that the war party will be greatly weakened by the failure of the commanders in the south to make use of their costly and extensive preparations for war, and a prompt resort to negotiations intended to lead to a peaceful result, will become possible. The conduct of foreign affairs will no doubt be left almost entirely to Li Chiung-t'ang, whose power should be greatly increased by the recent course of events, and the policy which they will necessitate.

In the extremity to which every financial department in the Empire has been reduced, the resources of the rulers will be severely taxed to devise the means of paying the indemnity which it may be taken for granted France will exact. Whatever the amount may be there is no doubt it will be large, and more than can be obtained from the ordinary sources of revenue without deep injury to an already overburdened people. The amount mentioned in the telegrams from London, as that which France would probably demand, or even double that sum, should be nothing to a vast and populous country like China. But unfortunately the great resources of China remain undeveloped. The varied mineral wealth of the land is buried; and everything has been done by the Mandarins in the past to prevent its being worked. In like manner the means of communication are as they were two or three thousand years ago, wherever there are no foreigners. The superfluities of one province cannot therefore be turned into money or money's worth in the markets of the next province or even district, and thus the comfort of the people as well as their means of becoming rich are restricted. In the position towards France in which the central Government is sure to find itself before long, that of having to pay a considerable sum of money, the advantages to itself, to say nothing of the people at large, which would undoubtedly follow the adoption of railways and mining, will present themselves to the enlightened minds among the rulers at Peking. Many of them already appreciate the advantages which a railway system would confer on their country, and regret that its introduction has been so long

delayed. Their opportunity for procuring this and other benefits for China which will fit her for playing a part in the world commensurate to her importance, will soon arise. If they induce the Cabinet at Peking to adopt an enlightened policy in these things, their difficulties about the indemnity and other money matters will vanish. But it will be necessary that the Cabinet shall adopt this policy without unnecessary delay. They can have the advice of the Ministers of the Great Powers; and it is just possible that the Governments of Europe and the United States may be induced to act together in such a way as to enable China to meet the claims of France, without still further straining the resources of the people. This would be desirable in the interests of foreign merchants, whose trade will otherwise continue to suffer as it has done for a year past. The same foreign influence might smooth the way to the introduction of foreign capital for the construction of railways, and their being worked so as to secure fully the interests of the shareholders, as well as of the Government. These points are by no means so easy of being put into practical working as they appear. Li Chung-t'ang is well aware of this, and as he will no doubt receive such powers from the Cabinet as he considers it advisable to ask for, we hope that he will include in his demands authority to arrange for the introduction of railways. With such authority in his hands he will find the way made easier towards a settlement with France. The sympathies of other nations will be given to China, about to enter on a new and enlightened policy. Money for the construction of all railways that offer reasonable hopes of success will be freely offered. The expenditure necessary in the construction of the lines will in itself soon replenish impoverished districts. The internal trade of the country will revive, and capital, now looked up, will be forthcoming to start again many industries that are languishing. Railways in India have enormously increased the prosperity of the country, and it would be the same in China. The mistakes which were in some cases committed in India would be avoidable here. The Imperial Government would be able to arrange on fair terms for the redemption of the railways after a certain number of years. By that time their own people would have become capable of managing such complex concerns as internal steam-communication, and, meanwhile, the increase of prosperity in the country would be such as to establish the innovation in the favour of even the most unprogressive and conservative of its rulers.

Summary of News.

A mail leaves to-morrow morning for Europe by the P. & O. Co.'s str. *Clyde*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

SUPPLIED SOLELY TO "N.-C. DAILY NEWS."
(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

London, 22nd March.

Osman Pasha, having failed to rally his followers, has fled to the interior. There is a complete stoppage of the Nile beyond Berber. The Tribes are closing round Khartoum.

Despatches have been received from General Gordon dated 15th March.

The French have claimed an indemnity from China of not less than six millions sterling.

Hongkong, 24th March.

The French have captured Thai-nu-yen without serious loss, while that of the enemy was heavy.

London, 24th March.

Sir Robert Peel, the Conservative Candidate, has been elected by a narrow majority as Member for Huntingdon.

The Cardinals will consider the expediency of the Pope leaving Rome.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]

(SPECIALLY COMMUNICATED TO N.-C. DAILY NEWS.)

(THROUGH CHINESE SOURCES.)

Haiphong, 20th March, 4 p.m.

On the 12th inst., the French commenced their attack on Bacninh, whereupon Liu Jung-fu, the Black Flag Chief, carrying with him all his Black Flag and Chinese soldiers, evacuated the place and fled to Chên-nan Kuan. The French Commander, suspecting that there might be a trap set for his troops, kept them at a considerable distance from the Citadel and sent a few scouts on ahead to reconnoitre. These men, on their return, reported that there were large supplies of arms and provisions, whereupon the Commander appointed a party to go into the city and bring them out.

On the 15th, at 9 p.m., Liu Jung-fu attacked the French on two flanks, when each Black Flag soldier proved himself the equal of ten Frenchmen, and a heavy slaughter of the invaders was the result, in which the leader of the French was killed.

(SUPPLIED SOLELY TO "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")
(SPECIAL TELEGRAM.)

Hongkong, 21st March.

The latest advices from the seat of war in Tonquin state that the outlying forts around Bacninh were captured with little trouble, the Chinese retreating into the Citadel. When the French were about to storm Bacninh, the garrison evacuated the stronghold, and three batteries of Krupp guns were captured.

The French are despatching two expeditions; one to Thai-nu-yen, and the other in the direction of Lang-son. It is not apprehended that there will be any great resistance on the part of the Chinese.

The telegram that we publish to-day "from Chinese sources" appears to have

been received with a gravity in many quarters which should be highly flattering to the senders of it. Of course it is understood that the message reached us in Chinese, and was translated in this office. The original was, if possible, even more truculent than the rendering we published, and apart from the peculiarity of its style, we consider the whole composition a very valuable contribution to the history of the Tonquin campaign. In the first place, we give it as a *bond fide* specimen of the telegrams constantly received by the military and civil mandarins of Shanghai, and, doubtless, of other places. Such are the flourishing announcements which have tended to help the Chinese keep up their spirits. It is comforting to them to be assured on official authority that each Black Flag proved himself the equal of ten Frenchmen. Such a tooting of the horn is pleasant to the Chinese ear, though it embodies no statement of fact, and amounts, after all, to no more than an expression of not very impartial opinion; and the assurance may be held by them to counteract the naiveness of the admissions, first, that the redoubtable Chief of the Black Flags ran away, and secondly, that his troops consisted partially of Chinese. Now that we have distinct native authority for the fact that there were Chinese in Bacninh, there need be no more controversy upon the matter; and this is a great point gained. The Chinese hold to it, however, that reverses overtook the French troops after the fall of Bacninh; and a paragraph in the *China Mail* gives the same rumour on what is said to be very high authority. The telegram in question is no doubt as authentic as the native pictures that have been hawked around the Settlement lately, representing the siege of Bacninh; and if any of our readers still cherish doubts upon the matter we need only refer them to the news we publish elsewhere of the fall of Thai-nu-yen.

The fall of Bacninh is explained. The Black Flag Chief, or some good-natured person acting as that warrior's amanuensis, has let us into the secret. The many reverses of the poor French had gone to the heart of their generous foe; and, leaning over the ramparts of the beleaguered city, he sighed, and said, "Let us be magnanimous!"—much as Mr. Pecksniff might have said, "Let us be merry!" "If we hold out, fresh mortification will come upon the French; it is ungenerous on our part to take advantage of our power." So this tender-hearted General withdrew from Bacninh with all his forces, and let the French go in under the comforting conviction that they had gained a victory, out of sheer benevolence and good-nature. Our translation of the Chinese document in which this affecting fact is detailed, is a little hasty, but gives the sense of the original accurately enough. It is unfortunate for the authenticity of the legend that Liu Jung-fu was not at Bacninh at all.

There are indications of some excitement among the native officials in Shanghai, and it is understood that intelligence of a somewhat disquieting nature has been received from the south. We are not in a position to enter into details, but believe that a person of some eminence has died, whose loss will be severely felt by the Government. There are conjectures afloat that it is T'ang Chiung, the Governor of Yunnan, the news of whose decease has come to hand. T'ang, who is brother-in-law to Chang Chih-tung, Governor of Shansi, is one of the ablest, bravest, and most progressive mandarins in China, and though his name is scarcely known to foreigners his influence has always been in the right direction. We may mention that T'ang Chiung predicted some months ago that Sontai would fall as soon as attacked, and the event justified his prophecy. But it often happens that China does not recognise her best men, and

not only was T'ang degraded some time ago on a trivial pretext, but the Empress is said to be highly incensed with him at the present moment for not preventing the loss of Bacinh. The resentment of so unreasonable and excitable a person, ill-founded though it be, is nevertheless calculated greatly to discredit those who are the objects of it, and we hear that P'eng Yü-lin is also included in her anger. Whether the rumour to which we have referred be with or without foundation, however, we believe there is no doubt that matters are assuming a very serious aspect in Yunnan, numbers of the Imperialist soldiery having deserted,—in disgust, probably, at their long arrears of pay, and the general disorganisation which exists in that province of the Empire.

We learn that the French Consul has requested the French Municipal Council to appoint a delegate to represent them on a Committee for the further examination into the effect of the bunding at the mouth of the Soochow Creek. This the Municipal Council has done, and we therefore anticipate that the question will be brought before the Committee at an early date. We have not heard what steps the Consular Body, the Municipal Council, or the Chamber of Commerce has taken or intends to take. But from the action of the French Consul it is evident that his representations to the Taotai have proved effectual, and no doubt a proper examination into the matter is now contemplated. We should be glad to hear that either the British Consul or Vice-Consul presided over the new Committee. The interests of the British here are too great to make it satisfactory that an important matter like this should be entrusted to the representatives of minor European Powers.

There are one or two points in connection with our alleged responsibility to the Chinese Government in the matter of Chusan, which, as far as we know, have not been brought to the notice of the public. In the first place, it is a noteworthy fact that when the Treaty of Tientsin superseded that of Nanking, no reference to the Convention concluded between Sir John Davis and Chi-ying was made; further, the agreement is entirely ignored by Mr. W. F. Meyers in his valuable compilation of Treaties past and present—a fact which goes far to prove that in the view of that eminent authority the understanding had a temporary and special significance only, and has since been virtually abrogated. In the second place, it is by no means clear that under present circumstances China would be very eager to claim the fulfilment of our promise. If British troops were to interfere to protect Chusan against the French, history might repeat itself in a manner not contemplated when the original agreement was made. The Chinese Government would probably not care to risk the occupation of Chusan by England, even in view of a seizure on the part of France. It is already galling enough to China that we should have Hongkong, and the Viceroy of Chihli is said to have expressed himself in very decided terms respecting any further cession of Chinese territory to foreign Powers. Were England to undertake the task, she would naturally require a *quid pro quo*, and such would probably be found only in a permanent occupation of the island by herself. In ceding it to China in the first instance she received Hongkong in exchange, and China is not likely to exact fulfilment of a promise which might lead to the loss of both possessions.

Chang Chih-tung, Governor of Shansi, in a long State-paper that we publish to-day, informs the Emperor that the lowest sum on which a Peking mandarin can live is a tael a day.

It is stated from Peking that the Marquis Tseng has impeached his colleague at Berlin, Li Fêng-pao, for purchasing badly-built gunboats at Stettin with a view to economy. The Marquis says that the

vessels lately made under the direction of Li are unsatisfactory, and likely to prove deficient in sea-going qualities when put to the test. The Chinese say that Li Fêng-pao is to be recalled, and replaced by Hsü, an official who was appointed to Tokio some years ago, but was unable to undertake the post owing to his having lost a parent. Now his period of mourning is over, and he is said to have been nominated to Germany.

The *Japan Mail* says:—Sir Harry Parkes has been appointed to represent Her Majesty at the Court of Seoul as well as that of Peking. We may conclude, therefore, that the treaty with Corea has been ratified, and Sir Harry will present the ratification as well as his credentials to the Corean Government some time in May or June. The news of the appointment will be received with satisfaction by Sir Harry's many friends in the East, and will further have the effect of removing all doubts as to Corea's national status in Great Britain's eyes.

From what wonderful sources, says the *Japan Mail*, the vernacular newspapers derive their information, we are often at a loss to divine. The latest rumour circulated by them, and readily taken up by the foreign local press, is that trouble has occurred between this country and China, and that His Excellency Soyeshima is about to proceed to Peking for the purpose of negotiating with the Tsung-li Yamén. The whole of this story is a baseless fabrication. There is no trouble with China, and Mr. Soyeshima is not about to proceed to Peking.

We notice that H.E. Mori Arinori, Japanese Minister to London, accompanied by Madame Mori, is a passenger by the M.M. steamer *Yangtsé*, March 2nd, from Marseilles to Yokohama.

It will be remembered that only five persons were saved from the wreck of the ill-fated steamer *Hwai-yuen*. From time to time reports have reached Shanghai of bodies being washed up on the shore in the vicinity of the wreck. The boatswain of the *Kiangteen* while in conversation at Ningpo with a Taichow fisherman who was a fellow townsman of his, was informed that five bodies had been washed ashore on the Taichow Islands, and that after being robbed of the valuables found on them, the fishermen had buried them. In consequence of this, the China Merchants' Company sent the boatswain to recover the bodies and to make enquiries as to whether any others had been found. The boatswain was sent down in the *Yungning* and returned to Ningpo on the 18th inst. He reports that numerous corpses of natives had been washed up on the shore at some distance from the wreck. After being pillaged of valuables and good clothes, they were allowed to drift out to sea again, though, in some cases, the bodies were tied with ropes to prevent them floating away; but after a time, all these drifted away also. In one case, as many as twenty-four bodies were seen at one spot. At another place, three bodies were cast up. These had apparently been well-to-do people, as there was jewellery on them. Such was the rapacity of the finders that they mutilated the bodies in order to secure the valuables by cutting off the hands to get the bangles from the wrists. Of the five bodies recovered and sent to Shanghai, one was that of a well-to-do passenger, an old man with grey beard and moustache. The other four were apparently those of sailors or firemen, the kind of clothing they wore leading to this conclusion. The boatswain saw one man in possession of a silver watch and a brass chain. To the latter was attached a locket containing the photograph of a foreigner with black whiskers and moustache. These were taken from one of the bodies. Although the boatswain made enquiries, he was unable to ascertain whether the bodies of any foreigners had been washed up on shore.

Mr. Wilson, the diver who has been employed at the wreck of the *Hwai-yuen*, returned to Shanghai by the *Twinn* on Sunday, having succeeded in recovering two more boxes of treasure valued at \$10,000. This makes \$35,000 altogether that have been recovered by him. The tugboat *Fah-lee* which assisted him at the wreck has gone to Ningpo.

Mr. Fentum's concluding Organ Recital on Saturday afternoon was unapproachable in its powerful beauty, and may be truly said to have held the audience spellbound. We regret exceedingly that it is unlikely the course will be continued; but it has been a great boon to us all throughout the winter, and the cordial thanks of the community are due to Mr. Fentum for the extreme pleasure that he has afforded us. There was, as usual, a very full audience on Saturday afternoon, in spite of the rainy weather.

The volunteers mustered in strong force for the parade on Saturday last. Fifteen rangers turned out, under the command of Lieut. Malherbe; about thirty artillerymen were present under Captain Dallas, with three howitzers and a galling gun; No. 1 Co. had about twenty-three files, No. 2 sixteen files, No. 3 thirteen files, and No. 4 nine files, in addition to officers and sergeants, the companies being in charge of Captains Morrison, Harvie, Lanning and Dannenberg. The infantry were sized into three companies, a few files of No. 1 being placed in No. 2, and Nos. 3 and 4 being amalgamated. Accompanied by the Town Band under M. Vela, who played well, though they might with advantage introduce from week to week a little variety in their Marches, the Corps proceeded to the Race-course and were put through a number of evolutions, including firing with blank cartridge. On their return to the Central Police Compound Major Holliday expressed his gratification at the manner in which the Corps had turned out and at the improvement which had been effected by the past three weeks of training.

Just before twelve o'clock on Monday night, a fire broke out in a block of buildings at the extreme west end of Hoihow Road extending through to Canton Road. The fire-bells rang almost exactly at midnight, and the Mii-ho-loongs were early on the spot, being rapidly followed by the "Deluge," "Victoria" and "Torrent" engine companies. The "Hongkew" engine having a long way to go did not appear till later and then could not obtain water for a long time. The engines took up a position on the Defence Creek which was nearly dry at the time, so the firemen had to dig holes in the bed of it to get a little water. The foreigners during the early stage of the fire do not appear to have been aware of the position of the hydrants, but later on, they found them and hose were connected with three hydrants, one of the latter being in Hoihow Road near the Polytechnic, another abreast of the Police Section House, and the third in Quangse Road, where a plentiful supply of water was obtained. In the meantime, a strong southerly wind, soon carried the flames across a couple of large blocks, and caused the destruction of nine Chinese hongs and ten shops, representing fifty-three houses, at the same time casting a glare over the whole neighbourhood, and producing a magnificent spectacle. At 2.30 a.m. the fire was nearly out, and owing to the burning blocks being separated by open spaces from the surrounding buildings, there was no further danger of its spreading. The property belonged to the compradore of the late Mr. E. M. Smith and was insured in the North British and Mercantile Insurance Company, and the damage done is estimated at Tls. 5,000. The fire commenced in the kitchen of the house next to 679, and there are grave rumours afloat to the effect that the fire was the work of incendiaries, and

that the rapidity with which the flames spread was due to the floors of the buildings having been saturated with kerosene. In support of this statement a gentleman informs us that he saw soon after the alarm was given a white sheet of flame—such as would arise from kerosene—burning about as high as a man from the ground-floor of some of the buildings. We also saw ourselves, and heard it remarked by others, that a similar flame burning inside the buildings at the north-east end was white, just like that produced by oil. The glare of the fire was seen by those on board the *Kiangteen*, while off Gutzlaff sixty-six miles from Shanghai. The firemen complain that the present system of ringing the bells does not sufficiently indicate the locality of the fire, but we believe that the Fire Commission are doing their best to do away with this cause of complaint, the chief difficulty the Commission have to deal with being the great expense that would be incurred to make the alarm service satisfactory. We believe it is in contemplation to erect six fire-alarm boxes in the English Settlement, with a corresponding box at the stations, with numbers in it. On pressing a knob in the box nearest the fire the policeman on duty can immediately communicate with the stations without losing time in having to run all the way to the station. When the fire-alarm box is used, a number, corresponding to that on it, falls at the stations, so that the officers there will know the immediate vicinity of the fire. In addition to this there is a possibility of the engine houses being connected by telephone with the Police Stations.

We do not, of course, pretend to say whether Mrs. Baldwin is responsible for the answers given by her in her trance-state to the questions silently propounded by unknown members of the audience. But there is no doubt that certain features of her remarkable performance are calculated to create a very uneasy feeling, if not to deter enquirers altogether. On Monday evening, it appears, somebody was represented as putting the very safe and innocent question when he was likely to be possessed of a thousand dollars. The reply was—"Never; and you will die on the 17th December 1884," or words to that effect. Now this is scarcely fair. A man may be pardonably curious to know whether there is any chance of his becoming possessed of a certain sum of money, but he does not thereby wish to be informed of the date of his death; and so unexpected and unwelcome an announcement might have a very injurious effect upon a person of nervous sensibilities who is not convinced that the phenomena he is witnessing are due to very clever trickery. Of course, the whole thing may have been a ruse, but we are not justified in assuming such to have been the case. Again, there is an amount of publicity attached to the reading of the enquirer's name aloud which most persons would be inclined to shrink from. It is scarcely pleasant, after hearing the answer to a question that has been propounded secretly, to be compelled to acknowledge yourself the questioner before half the community of Shanghai. Most of the enquiries one would be inclined to put are naturally of a somewhat private nature, and Mrs. Baldwin is so terribly knowing while under the mesmeric influence that one scarcely feels assured that she will not suddenly come out with the thoughts passing through one's mind at the moment—and that, too, in a manner that might be painful to many of the spectators. We do not know whether any modification in the present mode of procedure is possible, but throw out the suggestion for Professor Baldwin to act upon as he may think fit.

On Sunday evening an affray such as has not occurred in the Settlement for a considerable time took place in a public-house on the Yang-king-pang Creek. It appears

that two of the police, Sergeant MacDonald and P. C. Lawrence, went to the "Prince of Wales" public house for the purpose of arresting three sailors belonging to the *Enterprise*, against whom warrants had been issued from the U.S. Consulate for absence without leave. Near the public house the two officers who went to make the arrests were joined by two other constables who happened to be passing; the four entered the house and found the three absentees in a room in company with two or three other men, and immediately took them into custody. The men, however, offered some resistance, and the room was soon crowded with sailors who came trooping in from all parts of the house. These men, chiefly sailors belonging to the *Alert* and *Illis*, armed themselves with chairs and other rough and ready weapons, surrounded the officers and commenced a struggle to release the captured men, some of them even drawing their knives. In the altercation which ensued windows and furniture were smashed, the officers received several blows across the head and body, and the three prisoners were ultimately wrested from their custody. One of the sailors snatched Sergeant MacDonald's staff from his hands and dealt him a heavy blow with it, cutting his ear and inflicting a rather serious wound on the side of his head. Meanwhile information of the disturbance was conveyed to the Police Station, and Sergt. Howard marched a body of about a dozen policemen to the French Concession. He however left them on the Kiangse-road Bridge while he went on alone to ascertain the cause of the disturbance, and meanwhile the ringleaders, together with the three men released from custody, made off. Sergt. MacDonald was taken to have his wounds dressed, and the place gradually became quiet.

A telegram was received by the Agents of the C.M.S.N. Co. late on Saturday night from Amoy to the effect that the second officer of the *Fuyew*, commanded by Capt. Barfoot, had arrived at that port conveying the intelligence that his steamer had gone ashore to the north of the Pescadores and required assistance. The vessel remained on the rocks after she struck and no lives were lost. The Agent at Amoy requested the native authorities to send two gunboats to her assistance, one for the purpose of taking the *Fuyew's* passengers, thirteen hundred soldiers from Hankow, to Taiwan Fu, and the other to convey pumping gear in case it should be required.

The Rev. Wm. Muirhead left for England by the *Achilles* on Monday morning. Mr. Muirhead arrived in China in August 1847 and goes home for eighteen months.

The net proceeds of the entertainment given by the Richmond Minstrels at the Lyceum Theatre recently amounted to \$340, which have been presented to the Shanghai Temperance Society.

Mr. J. S. Swire has presented a cup to be competed for at the Spring Race Meeting. The prize will be known as the "Farewell Cup," and will be substituted for the Grand Stand Stakes in the third day's racing. The conditions will be found in an announcement on our front page.

The decision of the Chief Justice of Hongkong in the claim for salvage in the case of the British steamer *Selenbria* was given on the 14th inst. His Lordship considered the amounts claimed—\$100,000—most extravagant, and awarded \$3,500 for salvage, to be divided as follows: Wilson & Co. \$1,000, Gerard & Co. \$1,000 and Moalle & Co. \$1,500.

California papers state that certain Honolulu capitalists are engaged in getting up a company to start a line of steamers between San Francisco and China, touching at Honolulu. The steamers are to fly the Hawaiian flag and are to be of the largest class, the British steamer *Bell Rock*, being mentioned as probably the pioneer steamer of the line. The residents at Ho-

nolulu are averse to the proposition, as they state that it will cause another impour of the coolies among them. An agent at San Francisco has been authorised to purchase or charter two steamers of large size and of great speed, to enable them to carry a large quantity of freight and number of passengers and make good time between the different ports. The company intend to run steamers down to the coffee ports on the west coast of Central America, and thereby inaugurate a vigorous opposition to the Pacific Mail.

There is a club in London called the Odd Volumes, which recently formed a complete "sette"—in other words, held a dinner. Among the oddities present, besides his Oddship the President, were Mr. Bernard Quaritch, Mr. Herbert A. Giles, and Mr. Fung Yee of the Chinese Legation. Every oddity was expected to do something odd during the evening, and the proceedings were therefore of a singularly quaint nature. The oddest thing recorded of the meeting in question was a paper read by the odd—or his Oddship—Quaritch, in which the odd member certainly talked a good deal of nonsense. He said that one of the earliest books in China was the "Yeh" King; that Confucius was a great author; that the Taoists might be compared to the Salvation Army—a remark which would tell dangerously against the personal interests of the speaker should he ever be examined by any Commissioners of Lunacy; that "red-haired" in Chinese is *lung-man*, and that the connection of the Russians with China began in 1619. The odd Fung Yee drew attention to the fact that both China and England were wisely ruled by women, and that they were both very powerful nations.

It is proposed to continue running the ice machine during the summer, provided the necessary support can be obtained. A circular has therefore been sent round requesting those willing to take ice during the season, at one Mexican cent per pound, to subscribe their names, and, if possible, state the quantities they will agree to take per day.

On Friday afternoon last, in H.B.M.'s Summary Court, before Mr. Mowat, three charges of an extremely petty nature were preferred by Chinese firemen against John Waight, chief officer of the s.s. *Chefoo*. In the first case the defendant was charged with assaulting Chang Ah-kit by slapping him in the face about a month ago. When asked why he had waited so long before preferring the charge, the complainant naively admitted that the assault was so slight that he did not think it worth while saying anything about it; but when he found that the other men were going to bring charges against the defendant he thought he would bring his own case before the Court too. Mr. Mowat thereupon dismissed the case. Chang Ah-yin then charged the defendant with having struck and kicked him four or five days ago. Mr. Waight said that he had simply called the man's attention to a mess which he was making on deck by giving him a push with his foot. According to the complainant's own statement the assault was of a very slight nature, and his Worship ordered the defendant to pay the cost of the summons. The third case was a civil claim for damage done to a jade bracelet and watch, the property of Lum Ah-yin. The plaintiff said the watch and ornament were in his coat which was hanging up in the engine room and that they were broken by the defendant throwing them to the ground. The plaintiff, however, gave three different versions of the manner in which the damage was done. First he stated that he found the coat lying on the ground with the bracelet broken, then that he saw the defendant deliberately take up the coat and fling it on the ground, and thirdly, in cross-examination, he admitted having told the defendant that he had accidentally brushed up against the coat in passing and

knocked it down. The defendant stated the whole matter was simply a conspiracy on the part of these three men to get away from the ship, Lum Ah-ying being at the head of it. Mr. Mowat dismissed the third case also.

A boatman while walking over some of the beams of the new bridge over the Siochow Creek at the end of Honan Road missed his footing on Wednesday afternoon and fell upon his head on some stones below, the consequence being that his skull was fractured and he died instantly.

The French corvette *Villars* arrived at Shanghai on the 25th instant.

A Hongkong Government Gazette Extraordinary was issued on the 17th instant, in which a proclamation by His Excellency the Governor appears setting forth that sufficient reasons having been shown to him for now revoking the proclamation of the 5th inst, prohibiting the export from the Colony of arms, ammunition, &c., the same is revoked.

A telegram dated Manila 11th March has reached Singapore to the effect that the *Panay*, from Singapore to Manila has been totally lost. No particulars were to hand at Hongkong on the 18th March.

We take this from the *China Mail* of 17th instant:—This afternoon an informal meeting of the shareholders of the Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Company, Limited, was held at the Company's offices to consider an offer from Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. to take over the whole of the Company's steamers, the good will of the concern, &c. After considerable discussion, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s offer to purchase the whole of the Company's shares at \$45 per share premium, or \$120 per share, was proposed for acceptance by Mr. Bellios, Mr. C. P. Chater seconding. The motion was carried. We understand that over sixty shareholders were present.

A Correspondent, says the *China Mail*, who goes among the Chinese here a great deal, sends us some interesting information about the warlike preparations being made in Kowloon city to meet any attack made on the place by the body of people who are in revolt on the mainland, about forty miles north of Hongkong. He says:—The Chinese on the mainland, especially the officials, are much in fear of the aggressiveness of the rebels. Some of the officials assert that the French are at the bottom of the trouble. General Lai, the commandant of the garrison in Chinese Kowloon and neighbourhood, has but a thousand men under him, and some of them have been sent on a reconnoitering tour in the neighbourhood of the Lien Shan, where the rebels are now encamped. The distance from Kowloon to Lien Shan, or to that part of the mountain range occupied by the rebels, is only fifty miles or so, and it is feared that an attack is meditated on Kowloon. I was told to-day that a detachment of rebels visited British Kowloon last night, and transacted some business there.—General Lai considers the state of affairs serious enough to demand his attention in more than an ordinary manner; accordingly he has communicated with Admiral Fong on the subject, and received a reinforcement of a company of riflemen. The rifles are Sniders, in an unsatisfactory state as to appearance at least; they were issued from the Government Arsenal at Canton, but are foreign-made ones.—Heavy guns are being mounted on the walls of the city and fort, but they are not of the kind likely to impress a European in favour of their effectiveness. It is, however, evident that the Chinese officials, in Kowloon at least, are satisfied that some precautions are necessary to secure the safety of the place. The town itself is awkwardly situated, being commanded on the North by the tall range of mountains, which give the place its name.

The *China Mail* has this:—There is now good ground for believing that Yunnan

will soon be brought into telegraphic communication with Peking. Kuang-si, one of the most inaccessible provinces to foreigners, is now being made a sort of grand dépôt for war material, and the Canton telegraph line is being extended through that province to Tonquin. The anti-foreign clique have not said a word about it. Had the construction of such a line of telegraph, or any other Western innovation, been undertaken in times of peace, it would not have been tolerated. The line has also been extended through the province of Fukien, where its introduction was most violently opposed ten years ago, although supported by the Government. Ts'ên Yü-ying, Governor-General of Yunnan, is one of the bitterest opponents of foreigners known, and has opposed everything calculated to benefit them. The only foreign manufactures of which he has tolerated the introduction have been firearms—old Tower muskets principally,—and this exception to his general intolerance has been with the avowed object of driving all foreigners into the sea. He is not the only one of his party thus prejudiced. Most of the anti-foreign officials are bitterly hostile to our intercourse, and wear no article of foreign-make, nor either clocks or watches. P'eng Yü-liu has all along objected to use even foreign arms. Even now at this hour, when he is the commander-in-chief at Canton, he has not a foreign arm of any kind in his own force, and professes to be able to drive all foreigners away with his antiquated spears and tridents, and a few old-fashioned smooth-bore cannon of native make.

The *Daily Press* of the 17th says:—Notwithstanding the report made to us that the disturbances at Kuei-shin were at an end, the traffic in arms still seems to go on. On Friday two cases were discovered by the Police, one being only that of a man carrying one rifle, but in the other two men were carrying 24 muzzle loaders. The latter were very good weapons of their kind, of French make.

The same paper has this:—We hear from Chinese sources that on the 11th inst. the Imperial troops attacked the rebels at Kueishin in three divisions, and secured a victory. The loss sustained by the enemy was about two hundred killed and several hundred taken prisoners, besides a number of rifles and some ammunition captured by the troops. It would seem, however, that the attack was really made on the part of the rebels, who came out from their stronghold in the hills for that purpose. After the battle, the rebels fell back to the hills, whither they were pursued by the troops on the following morning. The rebels, however, had in the meantime fled to some other place of shelter, leaving only a few of their number behind. These were soon disposed of by the troops.

The *China Mail* of 14th instant says:—Some further information reached us from Chinese sources regarding the doings of the malcontents in Weichow who are carrying on a Lilliputian rebellion in that prefecture. They are still safely ensconced in their retreat in the Min Shan hills, at the foot of which the Imperialists are now encamped. The rebels' stronghold can only be approached by a narrow path which runs between precipitous hills, and which is only capable of allowing two men to walk abreast of each other. Overhanging this path are many boulders, some of them of considerable weight, and these are said to have been placed by the rebels in convenient positions for rolling down on any enemy which may attempt to assail the stronghold. In the meantime rockets and bombs are fired at the Imperial camp by the rebels, whose artillery is mounted on the summit of the hills. The shells, however, fall short of the camp and do no damage. The Imperial officers are rather chary of attempting to scale the hills; and are apparently inclined to pursue a policy of inaction, waiting patiently until the

rebels are forced to leave their fortress to obtain supplies.

The same paper of 15th instant has the following:—A military mandarin who is with the Imperial Chinese troops in Weichow sends the following information regarding the troubles in that prefecture. His letter is dated 14th inst., and was received in the Colony this morning. It is sent from Ping Hoi, where there is an Imperial Garrison. He says:—"I beg to inform you that we arrived at Hung Shek Bay on the 11th instant. In this neighbourhood there are villages of Hung Hom, Yin Tün, Foo Yung, Cheung Pai, Wong Kum Cheang, and Min Shan. From these villages the rebels collected their forces. About nine o'clock on the morning of the 12th instant, I landed with the Imperial forces, and went direct to Yin Tün, where the rebels were gathered in force. On the way thither numbers of the people in the district came and offered their assistance, and the rebels, thinking they were unable to hold their own against our force, retreated, leaving us the victors. We pursued, and captured a great deal of ammunition, muskets and gunpowder; also a number of the rebels. Our soldiers entered the deserted village of Foo Yung, Cheung Pai, Wong Kum Cheang and Min Shan without receiving any opposition, and burned down the whole of the houses. A few days ago, the mandarin in charge of Ping Ching Sz, and a *wei-yian* named Chow Wai-ching, were besieged by the rebels in one of the garrisoned villages. Our soldiers marched on this place, dispersed the rebels and relieved the garrison. Everything is now tranquil. A number of small bands of rebels in the Pak Mun Fa district have surrendered, while a thickly populated village named Fan Wo, the inhabitants of which were disaffected, have also given in their submission. When our troops entered this place we were enthusiastically received. The people in the neighbourhood have been ordered to raise volunteers." Another correspondent, in addition to corroborating some parts of the above statement, says he hears the rebels are still in strong force; and that further reinforcements of troops have been sent from Canton.

This is from the *China Mail*:—The defeat of the rebels in Wei-chow by the Imperial troops has been further corroborated to-day, 17th. One informant places the number of rebels killed at 160, and the number made prisoners at 600. Another places the number much lower and adds that a rebel leader is among those captured. He was dressed in a long coat, black boots and a silk girdle (mandarin uniform), and wore a red turban of a similar pattern to those worn by the Taipings. A proclamation by the Imperial officers calls on the gentry of the district to deliver up the leaders or organisers of the movement within three days. The *Wai San Yat Po* says:—A proclamation was found among the articles seized from the rebel, which was dated 大明元年,—the first year of the Great Ming.

On the 15th instant, the *Daily Press* said:—Our Canton correspondent writes word that the Chinese are on the tiptoe of expectation for news from Baniuh. A rumour is current among the natives in Canton that the numbers of the disaffected in the Kueishin district are increasing, but there is no reliable intelligence to hand.

The latest about the disturbances in the South is this from the *Daily Press* of the 21st:—We hear from Canton that latest reports in reference to the outbreak in Wei-chow state that it has been subdued by the Imperialist troops, and the insurrection is virtually at an end.

The *Straits Times* states:—At Pauang, on the 4th inst., the curious phenomenon of four suns was visible between noon and 4 p.m. The mirage, seen through a blackened piece of glass, was beautiful. The heat during the day had been most intense,

Miscellaneous Articles.

THE SITUATION.

It is noteworthy, in the discussions that are being carried on upon all sides respecting the situation in Tonquin, how very little stress is laid upon the rights and wrongs of the contending parties. The fact is that the matter has now travelled beyond the sphere of argument, and has resolved itself simply into a situation that must be faced. Lest, however, the controversy which has brought about this situation should be altogether lost sight of, we will summarise its salient points as briefly and impartially as possible. The contention of the Chinese is simple and to the point. You French, they say, are invading a country over which we exercise a certain jurisdiction; jurisdiction of a sort unknown and unrecognised by Western international law, but jurisdiction still. We see no reason why we should sacrifice our traditions to your foreign codes, and we look upon your invasion of Tonquin as a piratical attack upon one of our most valuable dependencies. Apart from this, too, you have come dangerously near the frontiers of China Proper, and whether you are scheming to wrest Yunnan and Kuangsi from us or not, you are acquiring a position of such proximity to those provinces as will eventually give you the power of unlimited trade with our people on the south-west—a thing we should object to very strongly. Therefore we are justified in using every means at our disposal to resist these encroachments on your part; and we have, through our very able ambassador in Paris and London, succeeded in securing no small amount of sympathy in Europe.—Thus far China; and those of our readers who care to study the pamphlet just compiled by Major-General Mesny will find that a good deal can be said on her side of the question. To which France may reply: This question of Tonquin is not one of yesterday. It has been seething for the last ten years. We utterly dispute your claim to suzerainty over the Peninsula of Annam. We made a Treaty with the King of the country in 1874 on a perfectly independent footing, and you never lifted a finger to invalidate it. We have long held undisputed possession of some part of the territory, and our growing trade has been stifled by the lawless hordes of outlaws whom you acknowledge as your own subjects. We have made constant representations to you on this matter, and you have done nothing whatever to restore order. At last we were compelled to take the law into our own hands; and now, having once begun, we do not feel disposed to blacken our operations until we have paid off old scores and secured a handsome *quid pro quo* for our trouble and expense. Besides, you have interfered

with us in the execution of that which you ought to have done yourselves. Instead of leaving us to rid the country of the Black Flag pirates, you have assisted them with money, arms, and provisions, and have actually taken the Chief under your own protection, giving him Imperial authority and appointing him Generalissimo of your Forces in Tonquin. By doing this you have put us to very great expense and trouble quite unnecessarily, and by opposing our arms in a country where you have no business have committed an act of war against us. On these grounds we consider ourselves justified in taking the fullest advantage of the victories we have gained, and shall demand from you a large indemnity for the trouble you have compelled us to take.—That, in a nutshell, is a brief compendium of the attitude assumed by France: and we do not intend to enquire very closely into the *pros* and *cons* of the discussion. That has been done *ad nauseam*, and no amount of moralising will alter accomplished facts. The position must be faced as it stands, and to this China will have to bring herself, and that shortly. Apart from the morality of the question one way or another, it seems a necessity for all States who possess colonies to be more or less aggressive. If they do not encroach a little now and then, they will be encroached upon; and they are therefore compelled to advance, in this direction or in that, in order to keep what they already have. We do not say that this is right; we only say that it is frequently imperative, and is in fact done by all nations, even against their own wishes and convictions. China, at the present moment, is the object of a certain sympathy. But this, at best, is no more than the sympathy we accord to an obstinate and foolish child, who, with much real good in him somewhere, has incurred severe punishment and loss by his fretfulness, disobedience, and stupidity. China seems infatuated. She is constantly doing things which are unworthy of a great nation, and thereby she alienates from her much of that sympathy which would otherwise be freely accorded both by foreigners individually and by foreign Powers. She has not been careful to observe her Treaty stipulations. She remains obstinately opposed to anything that savours of true progress. Her Ministers are alternately insolent and vacillating, and her provincial authorities continually manifest a desire to act vexatiously towards foreigners and to encroach upon their rights. The outrageous conduct of the Chinese soldiery in this Settlement the other day has not tended to inspire public opinion with much admiration for a Government under which such things are possible, and the impertinent reply of the Tao-t'ai to the representations made to him upon a former occasion only increased the irritation. The French themselves have neither forgotten nor

forgotten the horrible massacre of nuns at Tientsin fourteen years ago, and we do not suppose that they are in a frame of mind to deal leniently with the Chinese now. Were China only not so hopelessly blind to her own interests such a complication as the present would never have come about. By exercising a fair and liberal spirit in the interpretation of Treaties, and striving to assimilate their foreign policy as nearly as possible to that of Western nations, the Chinese would do much to ward off great catastrophes; but years of suppressed irritation must and will culminate in an outbreak, and an outbreak which may even shake the stability of the Government itself. The present crisis has partly, at any rate, been brought about by the fatuity of China's rulers; so much will be allowed. And having been brought about, it must be taken the fullest advantage of by the representatives of foreign Powers. We hope that a new departure in our international relations is at hand. China will have nothing to gain and everything to lose if she is so ill-advised as to go to war with France, for at the expiration of the struggle there will be an infinitely heavier debit-balance to her account than there is to-day. Let her, therefore, accept the present situation; relinquish her untenable claims to suzerainty over this country and over that, make terms with France, open up her provinces to steam, devote herself to the encouragement of trade and the improvement of the condition of her people, and start afresh upon the road of progress. Nothing short of this will heal her internecine troubles; nothing short of this will avert future wars.

CHINA'S TRIBUTARIES.

SOME time ago we drew attention to an article by Consul Jamieson, summarising such parts of the Chinese Dynastic Institutes as bear upon the subject of China's so-called Tributaries. It will be remembered that the list of these favoured nations is very singularly constituted, and shows an amount of inconsistency on the part of the compiler for which we were, to say the least of it, unprepared. There appears no reason, for instance, why Russia and France should not be claimed as Tributary nations along with England, Italy, and Holland; why Japan should be excluded from the happy family; and why Germany should not be so much as mentioned. But we have to deal with the Ta-Tsing Hui Tien as it is, and not as it might be; and we think that at the present juncture the subject will prove both interesting and suggestive. The importance of it arises from the fact that the book in question is invested with Imperial authority, and that it is in force at the present day. Published in 1820, during the reign of Chia Ch'ing, it has never been recast or corrected, and must therefore be regarded as the official

exponent of Imperial theories in 1884. Probably, too, we should do it no more than justice by looking upon it as an authority on geographical science. It is, of course, regrettable that official science is occasionally at variance with the deductions of scientific men, and even with facts of the most rudimentary and familiar nature; but it would be unfair to reproach the Chinese Government with singularity in this respect. It was many years, even in Europe, before ecclesiastical astronomy and geology overtook the teachings of secular schools, and it may be doubted whether that desirable end has been attained even yet in the fullest measure. Still, it cannot be denied that differences of opinion on such points, when they exist between Governments, may assume somewhat formidable proportions, and that the utter ignorance which characterises the Chinese people generally is due in a great degree to the sanction given by their rulers to these exploded notions.

Now we think that an appeal might very reasonably be made to the Chinese Government on this matter by the Ministers of the Treaty Powers. The case is simplicity itself. In a book of Institutes, published by Imperial authority, and in force at the present day, certain statements are made which, utterly and ludicrously false in themselves, are insulting if not injurious to the sovereigns and peoples of the West. Of course the book in which these offensive assertions are made is not very closely studied by the people at large, and we know perfectly well that those statesmen who have the actual governing of the country cannot and do not believe them. The Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamen no more really think that England is tributary to China than Lord Granville thinks the Emperor is tributary to the Queen. But the fact remains, that, in the only official authority which exists, that ignorant and preposterous claim is positively and gravely made; that the book itself is in the hands of every mandarin of rank throughout the Empire; and that the youthful Emperor may be reasonably supposed to draw from it his first lessons in political history and statecraft. He is told how the barbarian Macartney came some years ago, humbly bearing tribute from his master to the great Emperor; how His Majesty was graciously pleased to admit the barbarians from afar to the civilising influences of intercourse; and how ungratefully they rebelled against him a few years afterwards. Such, we have little doubt, is, in outline, a fair specimen of the ideas which are being instilled into the future ruler of the Middle Kingdom, and which actually exist in the minds of millions of his subjects in the interior. During the quarrel with Russia some years ago, an English missionary was asked, in all good faith, by certain simple villagers, whether it was true that the Russians had "rebelled;" and every-

body who has had much intercourse with the Chinese knows how difficult it is to make them speak and write of European sovereigns in the same honourific style as of their own. Now we cannot much wonder at this as long as the standard work on domestic and international politics in China sanctions and indeed compels such views; and we think that the Government might fitly have their attention drawn to the fact, and be invited to revise their utterances. It is not the policy of any prudent Minister to stir up muddy water; but there are occasions when it is not only desirable but necessary for such representations to be made as shall have for their object the withdrawal of improper expressions, especially when these are calculated to foster contempt for the sovereigns of friendly Powers. At present the British Minister is accredited to a Court the Institutes of which describe the country he represents as a subordinate and tributary state. This is of itself an anomaly, and one against which a protest might be fitly, and we think, should be, made. And advantage might be taken of the occasion to invite the Chinese Government to draw up a "revised version" of its entire list of so-called tributaries, stating the grounds on which the claim is made and the actual extent of jurisdiction exercised. Were the particulars thus given thoroughly sifted by the Diplomatic body in Peking, and all claims subjected to the rigorous test of International Law as understood and acted on by every civilised country in the world, the result might be a somewhat shrunken catalogue, but a far more reliable one than that now existing. Nor would it be amiss if the scholars of the country were to learn a little more about the whereabouts of the "States" they imagine are tributary to the Emperor. Not very long ago, a *chü-jén* or M.A. was asked how it was the Emperor of China did not govern Corea through a Viceroy, instead of allowing it to have a King of its own. "Because," replied the man of learning, "because of the immense distance at which Corea is situated from Peking. We could never think of sending a man so far from home." An atlas was immediately brought into play, and the respective distances of Corea from China, and India and Australia from England, were presented to his wondering gaze. Tableau!

LITERARY AND POLITICAL PERSONALITIES.

It is always well, when criticising the many barbarisms of the Chinese, to remember that less than a century ago we were ourselves quite as backward in many respects as they are to-day. Railways and gas are the inventions of yesterday, and both were vehemently opposed at first. Punishments were horribly inhuman; and shocking as are many of the infictions permitted by the Chinese code, we do

not remember that a Chinaman was ever liable to lose his life for stealing a morsel of food, as used to be the case in England. Conversation, even in the most patrician circles, was coarse and vulgar to an extent unheard of in China at the same epoch; while the duel, a sufficiently barbarous practice as all will allow, has never, we believe, been recognised in this country. In no department of civilisation, however, have Englishmen advanced so rapidly as in the tone and style of their periodical literature. When we read the courtly and reserved expressions in which great papers like the *Times*, the *Standard*, and the *Daily News* convey their political opinions it is difficult to realise the vulgarity which characterised such public utterances not more than fifty years ago. The so-called Society papers, the free-lances of modern journalism, are occasionally outspoken to the verge of rudeness; but even their most unguarded and reprehensible passages fade into insignificance before the outrageous personalities which used to be in vogue. Mr. Trevelyan reminds us of the way in which the *Times* was wont to refer to one of the most eminent statesmen of the day. The great journal, he writes, could find no more appropriate name for the great orator than Mr. Babbletongue Macaulay. Such an expression occurring in the *Times* of 1884 would lead to the belief that the editor had suddenly taken leave of his wits; but in 1830 there was nothing unusual in it whatever. Earl Lytton cites similar instances of the way in which *Fraser's Magazine* thought fit to criticise the earlier works of his illustrious father. "Do not be seduced into the belief," writes a critic in 1831, adopting an offensively personal form of address, "that because a man in your employer's back shop can manufacture a novel on the shortest notice and at the lowest price, therefore all other species of literary labour may be similarly performed. Nobody knows better than yourself that to make a fashionable novel all that is required is a tolerable acquaintance with footmen and butlers. This will supply the high life. The meanness of the characters introduced you may draw from yourself. I am sorry to say that [your work] is truly beastly and abominably stupid. My dear Bulwer, this writing of yours is bitter bad, it is jejune base twaddle: twaddle, I say, Bulwer, twaddle. Your paltry grovelling productions have not the power of influencing the opinions of a lady's lapdog. Your politics are of the most sneaking kind. I think you a deserving young person whom Nature intended for a foolman, and I pity you accordingly for having missed your vocation." Is it not almost incredible that Thackeray was one of these lampooners, and that many of the gross personalities directed against the author of 'Pelham' came from his pen? "It might well cause resentment in critics like these," says Earl Lytton,

"that my father was a gentleman." All this shows how great are the strides that we have made in refinement during the last few decades. Such writing as we have quoted would not be tolerated to-day in any civilised community. The English press generally is now largely purified from this taint even in China; always excepting, of course, one profane little sheet whose weekly appearance is a scandal to the godly and a delight to the unregenerate. As personal refinement advances, it is found that nicknames and vulgarity do not pay, and a higher tone becomes characteristic of the press. But while the press in England and elsewhere has been thus purged, it seems as though the latent virulence of certain public men had found another outlet. Displays of party spirit and party spite are not of very frequent occurrence in their grosser forms; but still they do occur every now and then, and are the signal for an immediate outburst of condemnation on the part of the public at large. Such a display has recently been made by Lord Randolph Chelmsford, who might well sit in company with Mr. Gladstone for a humanised picture of Dignity and Impudence, in which Lord Randolph might be fitly portrayed as a Blenheim spaniel. There is no more deplorable spectacle than that of a young man presuming to teach a great statesman more than twice his age, and conveying his instructions in terms of insolent abuse. Here is a choice specimen of the manner in which the Duke of Marlborough's young son refers to the old man to whom all England looks up:—

The Prime Minister is the greatest living master of the art of personal political advertisement. Holloway, Colman, and Horniman are nothing compared with him. Every act of his, whether it be for the purposes of health, or of recreation, or of religious devotion, is spread before the eyes of every man, woman, and child in the United Kingdom on large and glaring placards. For the purposes of religious devotion the advertisements grow larger. The parish church at Hawarden is insufficient to contain the thronging multitudes of flycatchers who flock to hear Mr. Gladstone read the lessons for the day, and the humble parishioners are banished to hospitable Nonconformist tabernacles in order that mankind may be present at the Prime Minister's rendering of Isaiah, or Jeremiah, or the Book of Job. . . . This, gentleman, all this, is the great art of advertisement, and there can be no doubt that it pays when undertaken on the grandiose scale adopted by Mr. Gladstone.

How shall we characterise the insinuation that the Prime Minister's attendance at church is part of a grand theatrical display for the purpose of advertising himself? But that is nothing to what Lord Randolph can do if he likes. Shortly after this exhibition of himself, he—knowing nothing at all of the Free-trade movement—was pleased to speak of Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright as "two plundering cuckoos, who deliberately ejected Mr. Charles Villiers from the nest which he had constructed, and who reared

there their own chattering and silly brood." But, continued this courteous and modest youth, "the robe of righteousness with which he and his confederates have clothed their squalid and corrupted forms shall be torn asunder. Naked and ashamed, shall they be beheld by all the intelligent public." The *Spectator* remarks with singular aptitude that at any rate Lord Randolph attributes to Mr. Bright and his friends a shame of moral squalor of which he himself is incapable; he, himself, glories in it. "Such a method of political controversy," says the *Pall Mall*, "is worthy of Mr. Healy and Mr. Biggar at their worst; but hitherto no English politician has defiled himself by its adoption. In this country, at least, members of Parliament have attempted to act like gentlemen. Lord Randolph appears to think that he will change all that. He may. But if he fails he has committed political suicide, and if he succeeds he will have degraded the whole tone of English public life." We do not think that he will succeed. Even the Conservative journals defend him in a half-hearted way, as though they had a strong disrelish for the job. It is scarcely likely than a man capable of such gross indecencies will ever have the full confidence of a great Party, which, whatever may have been its faults, has been hitherto associated with traditions of good breeding. This may be a good thing for the country, for certainly a greater calamity could scarcely happen to England than for such a man to attain a responsible position in her counsels.

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE.

It is scarcely likely that the eccentric Marquis of Queensberry seriously anticipates that the change he advocates in the Marriage Service will be adopted by the nation as it stands. Lord Queensberry proposes that the words "whom God hath joined together let not man put asunder" be omitted, and replaced by the almost meaningless phrase "whom the Government or nature may put asunder let no man attempt to keep together." This, he says, is to 'meet' divorce cases—what does 'meet' mean?—and to suit the views of the Secularists, of whom his lordship is a prominent member. It is putting it very mildly to say that if Lord Queensberry's object is to facilitate divorce and spare those who sympathise with his views from being compelled to join in a service based upon a creed that they reject, he has gone rather clumsily about his task. The question may fairly be asked, what, or how much, is implied in the words "whom God hath joined together?" It would be going a great deal too far to affirm that all marriages can claim anything like such high authority. The commonest experience is sufficient to prove that a large proportion of marriages, so far from having been arranged in Heaven, are no marriages at all in the truest

and deepest sense of the word. The tie that binds two people together in order that their estates and fortunes may be similarly combined, and in which sympathy and affection have no part, is a purely legal contract, and its formal recognition by a Christian church of whatsoever denomination is an anomaly. It may be said with truth that in the number of legal marriages celebrated every year only a certain proportion are entitled to the high sanction which the Church service recognises as the only veritable bond between two persons. We may go further, and say that to credit the Almighty with being the author of the many worldly, ill-assorted, and therefore utterly immoral matches that are made every year is to say that which is both ridiculous and profane. Those whom God has joined together, it is fair to presume, nobody can put asunder even if he wished; those who joined themselves together from unworthy and foolish motives are put asunder every year, and very properly. When Lord Queensberry advocates the substitution of the phrase "whom Government or nature may put asunder, let no man attempt to keep together," we presume that what he means is that there should be no restriction whatever laid upon divorce. But if he means this he has not expressed himself very clearly. If the Government dissolves a marriage, it would be useless for any one to try and keep the parties to it together, and there is an end of the matter. The word 'nature,' too, is a somewhat indefinite term, and unless it is rather more clearly defined it is in danger of being used in the laxer sense of 'caprice.' What we presume the Marquis really means is that the Government should not insist on keeping those together who are anxious to separate; and if he had used this formula his proposition would at any rate have had the merit of perspicuity. The question is confessedly one of the most difficult in the world. From the standpoint of nature and religion, there is no necessity whatever for a formal ceremony to constitute a marriage. Each nation has its own practices, and these are just as much a matter of custom as differences in dress, and manners, and food. The Chinese, in their marriages, worship Heaven and Earth, as the two great productive powers of Nature. The gipsies, we believe, break a potsherd between the contracting parties. The Australian bridegroom bangs his bride over the head and carries her off on his back. The Scotch simply take each other for man and wife in the presence of witnesses. Marriage is nothing but the union of man and woman, and that union being once effected any breach of fidelity on the part of either is, from a religious standpoint, a crime. It is only in deference to sentiment that a religious or emblematical ceremony is undergone at all, and only in deference to law and order that a legal registration of the event is necessary. It is the legal marriage that

is binding in the eye of the law, and when this has been contracted it matters not one whit whether the husband and wife be remarried by a clergyman of this church or the other, or by a Quaker, a Shaker, a Positivist, or a Jew. Divorce, then, should be considered also in a purely secular light by the law. The law has nothing to do with a man's personal morality. The law makes marriage legal in the world's eyes; it cannot sanctify an impure union, nor has it any right to decide whether such-and-such a marriage is a divinely-arranged one or not. Marriage, therefore, being a purely legal contract in the eyes of the law, should be treated as such, and the extension or contraction of facilities for divorce should be considered from a purely economic point of view. Whether two persons sin in divorcing each other is a matter entirely for themselves, and the responsibility of which must rest upon them solely; for no legal latitude can ever relieve them of that. It may therefore fairly be questioned how far a Government is in the sphere of its functions in legislating upon the relations of a married pair from a religious standpoint, and enforcing observances upon them which derive their existence only from certain doctrines in which the parties principally concerned do not believe.

Akin, however, to Lord Queensberry's proposition, and almost depending upon it, are other matters of well-nigh equal magnitude. It must be clear to all unprejudiced observers that whatever may be done for facilitating the divorce of married persons, the divorce of that ill-assorted couple, Church and State, is only a question of time. The Church itself, too, must either enlarge its borders and take in men of even greater divergences of creed than exist in it at present—if, indeed, that were possible—or else split up into independent bodies. It is certainly a marvel to an observer to see a denomination, bound by rubrics and liturgies, elastic enough to afford comfortable elbow-room for a man like Haweis, who 'believes' in little but 'assents to' anything you please, a semi-Catholic like Father Ignatius or Mr. Tooth, and a Low Churchman of the temperature of Bishop Ryle. It is very nice to speak of the benign Mother with room for all these parties in her capacious bosom, but what constitutes the Mother herself, and what is her creed? Which is the dutiful son, the Ritualist, or the Rev. Mr. Threedecker? Well, that is just what nobody seems to know; and the day is fast approaching when nobody will be asked to decide, for, the Church being once severed from the State, the vexed questions that have made so much business for our Ecclesiastical Courts of Law will be left to the solution of those who are most deeply interested in them. The disestablishment of the Church will set it free from many ties and many troubles; it will be independent, and being inde-

pendent will progress. And everything is tending towards this end. Lord Queensberry's proposition suggests, if it does not carry with it, the great question of liturgical revision. This is inevitable sooner or later, and the battle to which it will give rise will either snap the bonds which now bind the Church and State together, or lead to fresh raptures in the Church itself.

CHALLENGE BY LIU JUNG-FU TO THE FRENCH.

WHY BACNINH WAS GIVEN UP.

I, Liu, Generalissimo and Baron of the Righteous and Good Order, do send to the Commander of the French Forces a formal challenge, inviting him to a pitched battle. It is reported that France is the strongest nation beyond the seas. Ten years ago I, the Generalissimo, fought with your General An Nei and slew him in a single engagement as I would slay a dog or a chicken. I laughed in my sleeve to think that the warriors of a powerful nation were only of such type. Rivière was known to be the bravest of the brave among your soldiers, but notwithstanding the fact, I also laid him low in one battle. Innumerable other officers have perished in battling against me. From the 4th moon of the last year, your armies sustained a defeat at Che Chiao, a second reverse at Hui Teh and a third rout at Tan Fung. The world ridiculed your country for not having a man (who was able to stand against me). Still soldiers commanded by benevolent leaders have no selfish interest in war. With a single army I have destroyed the renown which your country has borne for a thousand years. In the 11th moon last, your army marched against Shansi; on the 12th and 13th the French land forces had reached Tan Fung and crossed Hoh Kiang; and the gunboats had steamed up to Jih-chou Sa. Close to each other indeed were your armies and mine, but I forbore to oppose you. On the 15th, the battle commenced under the very walls [of Bacninh.] Leaning over the parapet I saw the dead bodies of your soldiery cover the plains, a sight unpleasant to the eye and revolting to the heart. I addressed my warriors thus:—"France is the most powerful nation over the seas, and if another defeat is sustained what will be their shame? Let us yield to them this city, so as to give them a slight advantage and forbear to exterminate so many poor devils." It is in acting thus, that a benevolent, virtuous man shows his feelings (towards the conquered). I accordingly retreated with all my force to Hsian Hua, pondering in my mind that your commander, impelled by a sense of gratitude, would conceive no further grudge against me. But lately your army has advanced to Sze-toh Kiang, hesitating to cross and rendering themselves ridiculous in a thousand ways, something at once laughable and to be pitied. Your hearts show no repentance, and you are too desperate to listen to reason. Methinks the repeated attempts to lead me on to an engagement is nothing more than the hope of gaining a decisive victory and mastering Peh Ki. The actions of a man true to the noble instincts of nature should be straightforward and determined. The most powerful nation beyond the seas, like France, and a commander with thousands of soldiers hiding by the river banks and firing off their rifles and guns, is a sight so grotesque and cowardly that it is not worth the while to laugh at. Why do you not cross the river and fight like a man? If you are victorious, I shall withdraw with my army and give you Peh Ki. I am the only one you fear. When I depart, no one will oppose you. The success (of a scheme) brought about by a single battle is certainly convenient and advantageous. If you should be defeated it is to be con-

jected that you will have no more face to exist in the world and you cannot but to fold up your ranks and return, in which case it will save me the trouble of giving you chase. The success or failure of two Governments depends upon this single action. Why should more lives be sacrificed, thus offending the benevolent love of nature for mankind? Now do I make an appointment with you, the French General; when your soldiers are crossing the river I will not harass you. I shall wait until every man of your army has reached this shore and been placed in battle array before I make an attack. An honourable man never breaks his word. From this day forth I shall wait three days for you; if you do not cross in that time, I give you five days and even ten days. But if you fail to meet me in ten days, I shall disclose to the whole world (your cowardice) and the nine continents and four seas will rise as one man and laugh at you. Alas! how can the French be then ranked among mankind? I possess only a few thousand men! You have strong ships, I have none; you have powerful guns, I have none. My weapons of war are inferior to yours. What then hinders you from keeping the appointment? I think you, the General, can never be so patient and humiliating as to be circumspect and not venturing to come (to battle.) But victory or defeat is nothing unusual in wars; there is no need of over-fearing the consequences. If you do not come, then the disgrace and shame will be far worse than those caused by actual reverse. It is hoped you, the General, will thoroughly ponder over this, and I anxiously await the appearance of your battle flags. Do not fail to fulfil my appointment.—Shên Pao.

THE ENGLISH-MAIL PAPERS.

THE *Pall Mall Budget*, to which one naturally turns first since its recent change of editorship, in this week as bright and varied as ever. Among its novelties is an article by Mr. Bradlaugh on his exclusion from the House, headed 'Justice for Northampton,' which is undeniably clever and well written. 'Centres of Spiritual Activity' are represented in the present number by the Metropolitan Tabernacle, a wonderful account of which is written by the Rev. V. J. Charlesworth. It is in point of fact a centre of spiritual activity unequalled in extent by any other institution in London. One of its branches of usefulness—besides training-colleges, ragged-schools, almshouses, and what-not—is a Bible Flower Mission, "conducted by a band of young ladies, who arrange the flowers sent from the country into bouquets, each bouquet having a Scripture text attached, and convey them to the homes of the sick poor and the inmates of the local hospitals, workhouses, and infirmaries. In 1882 no fewer than 17,616 of these 'floral apostles' were distributed to the sick and aged poor." Every Monday evening there is a prayer-meeting in the Tabernacle, which is usually attended by upwards of two thousand persons. A very curious little article is published further on headed 'Mr. Ruskin's Meteorological Discovery', dealing with that gentleman's recent lecture on 'The Storm Cloud of the Nineteenth Century.' Mr. Ruskin is so thoroughly paced a mystic that it is some times very difficult to follow his arguments. He talks first about what he calls a plague-wind, which he thus describes:—

The sky is covered with grey cloud—not rain-cloud, but a dry, black veil, which no ray of sunshine can pierce; partly diffused in mist, feeble mist, enough to make distant objects unintelligible, yet without any substance, or wrathing, or colour of its own. During all this spring, morning after morning has come grey-shrouded thus. And it is a new thing to me and a very dreadful one. Since I was five, I have gleaned the best hours of my life in the sun of spring and summer

mornings, and I never saw such as these till now. The bitter wind looks partly as if it were made of poisonous smoke; but more smoke would not blow to and fro in that wild way. It looks more to me as if it were made of dead men's souls—such of them as are not gone yet where they have to go, and may be flitting hither and thither, doubting, themselves, of the fittest place for them.

This wind, he says, pollutes the air, increases the violence of storms, and blanches the sun. Then he asks the meaning of these strange phenomena, and answers the question in the following words:—

For the last twenty years England and all foreign nations, either tempting or following her, have blasphemed the name of the Deity deliberately, and committed iniquity by proclamation, every man doing by the advice of his superior as much harm to his brother as it was in his power to do. Of this moral gloom every seed of old time—Greek, Christian, and Jew—predicated the physical gloom, saying, "The light shall be darkened in the heavens thereof, and the stars shall withdraw their shining." And is there no fulfilment of the prophecy in the fact recorded not fourteen days ago "in your own elect journal," that on the Empire of England, on which formerly the sun never set, the sun now never rises? And what, you may ask me, is best to be done? Whether you can affect the signs of the sky or no, you can the signs of the times. You may not be able to bring back the sun to the sky, but you can assuredly bring back your own cheerfulness and honesty. You may not be able to say to the winds, Peace, be still; but you can check the insolence of your own lips and the troubling of your own passions. And all that it would be well to do, even though the sun were darkened and the moon turned to blood. But the paths of rectitude once regained, may not the promise of old time hold for us also? "Prove me now herewith, said the Lord of Hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

It will be remembered that two or three years ago Mr. Ruskin indited a most mad attack upon charging interest on money, which he said was the great national sin of England. The *Spectator* informs us that the Archaeological Society of Vienna intends to devote its surplus funds to a careful search in the Gulf of Salamis for any relics of the Greek and Persian galleys which sank there 2,364 years ago. The water is not deep, and with modern appliances the bottom of the gulf can be very thoroughly explored. The writer suggests that should the search prove successful, the Society might make a good, careful, raid after Pharaoh's chariots lying in the neck of the Gulf of Akaba. Or perhaps the Anglo-Israelites might undertake the exploration. "They might find something that would support their theory—a prophetic tablet, for instance, written by Aaron, and bearing testimony to Lord Beaconsfield; or a square stone, with inscriptions showing that Moses established representative government, joint-stock banks, and trial by jury, and must, therefore, have been the first Englishman." The *Spectator* has a very able and cogent paper on Cardinal Newman's essay on "Inspiration," which will be read with great interest by all who have read the essay in the *Nineteenth Century*. It hits the nail on the head very cleverly. The *Pall Mall*, in referring to the same subject, simply summarises the Cardinal's argument thus: "Inspiration, he holds, is confined to matters of fact [faith—this is evidently a misprint] and morals, and the share of the Deity is chiefly editorial." The *Saturday* has nothing much to say about the Tonquin deadlock. "From the moment when the capture of Sontai had shown that the French fighting power in Tonquin was strong enough to punish all attempts to oppose it, the Republic has apparently made up its mind that the time has come for concluding some such arrangement as China will be ready to accept. It is not likely," says the writer, "that the Chinese Government will prove very im-

practicable if once it is thoroughly convinced that it has to deal with an enemy who can and will fight vigorously." The *Saturday* summarises rather than criticises Cardinal Newman's exposition of inspiration, and so far its article is not so satisfactory as that in the *Spectator*. We concluding words, however, deal pointedly with a very important concession:—

On another point he is more explicit; there are "obiter dicta" in Scripture about matters of fact, which do not come within the sphere of its inspiration, "since they can otherwise be perfectly well known," and thus it is not a matter of faith that Nebuchadnezzar was King of Nineveh, as stated in the book of Judith, or that Tobias's dog wagged its tail. Our aim throughout has been rather to exhibit Cardinal Newman's treatment of this grave question than to criticize it, and we should be precluded by limitations of space, if by no other reason, from discussing it on its merits here. It will be observed however that his theory of scriptural inspiration allows considerable latitude in handling such portions of the text as do not concern "faith and morals"; its application to the scientific and historical difficulties urged in our own day, e.g. as to the creation or fall of man, would largely depend in each case on where the line is drawn between mere fact and fact held to have a doctrinal significance.

Further on we have a review of a book, 'Memories of Seventy years,' which is of great literary interest, written by a lady related to Mrs. Barbauld, Dr. Aikin, and Gilbert Wakefield. The *Athenaeum* reviews a book by the Rev. Dr. Edersheim—a gentleman whose daughter will shortly be welcomed in Shanghai. Dr. Edersheim is a converted Rabbi, and his present work deals with 'The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah.' The critic remarks,—"It is not often that such thoroughgoing orthodoxy is united with learning so extensive. If only the learning were accompanied with critical power the work would occupy a high position." The obituary of the week contains some well-known names: Wendell Phillips, M. Rouher—the "Vice-Emperor"—and Mr. Abraham Hayward, Q.C., a journalist of high standing. *Vanity Fair* tells the following anecdote of General Gordon, which is highly characteristic:—

When the Army authorities had tardily decided that, in the event of his accepting the Belgian Mission to the Congo, General Gordon need not resign his commission in Her Majesty's service after all, he was summoned to the War Office. As Lord Hartington could not wait to receive him, the Adjutant-General did so, and communicated the decision of the Government. Then, seizing upon an opportunity that probably seemed favourable to picking up a useful hint or two, Lord Wolseley began to speak of affairs in Egypt. "We have got into an awful mess about the Sudan," said he. "It will all come right in the end," answered Gordon, confidently. "I wish I could see in what way," said his lordship; "matters appear to be going from bad to worse." Gordon replied, "You needn't worry yourself about that: I know it will all come right in the end." "How so?" asked the other. "If you want to know," said Gordon, "read that"—and he handed his lordship a book. The Adjutant-General took it, possibly expecting to find that it contained an elaborate scheme for the defence, reform, and government of the Egyptian territory. Nothing of the sort; it was the *De Imitatione Christi* of Thomas à Kempis!

We conclude with a few literary jottings from the *Athenaeum*.—As a result of the International Literary Congress at Berne last September, the President of the Swiss Confederation, M. Richonnet, has issued a circular inviting the European Governments to send representatives to a conference at which the establishment of an international code of literary copyright will be discussed. Our Government has agreed to take part in this conference, and Lord Granville has informed Mr. Blanchard Jerrold, the Chairman of the English Committee of the International Literary Association, that Mr. Adams, Her Majesty's Minister at Berne, is instructed to attend

as British delegate, but that he is to be present in "a purely consultative capacity, and with no power to vote or to bind Her Majesty's Government to accept any views on the copyright question which may be adopted by the conference."—The proprietors of a London evening paper are seriously considering the advisability of publishing a novel in its pages, after the fashion of continental journals.—The Sultan, "in testimony of high satisfaction" with Mr. Edwin Arnold's 'Pearls of the Faith' as a poetical exposition of the religion of Islam, has conferred on him the Order of the Osmânié of the third class.—Messrs. Routledge & Sons are about to issue, under the supervision of the author, an English translation of M. Philippe Daryl's work, 'La Vie Publique en Angleterre.'—It is confidently asserted by those who should know that the Heine memoirs will prove a general disappointment, in so far that they only treat of the poet's childhood and very early youth.—A German biography of Burns will appear this Easter, containing a large selection of translations from the poet's best pieces.

Outports.

SHANGHAI.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

A few days ago, a fatal fire occurred near the heart of the city. It broke out early in the morning, in an oil-paper shop. It soon burned away the stair-case, and the inmates having no means of escape, four persons perished in the flames. Another casualty occurred at the arsenal. Two men were grinding in one of the powder rooms. The mill had not been oiled sufficiently, and the two iron surfaces coming together, fire was generated and an explosion occurred. The two men were horribly burned. They were literally charred. Being moved to the Mission hospital they received every attention from the foreign physician, but their cases were beyond the aid of medical skill. The skin of one hand came off, just like a glove, retaining the finger nails. In consequence of this accident the arsenal is closed for repairs. Business in this city is very dull. It will take a long time for it to recover from the severe shock caused by the failure of the banker Hu. For several years the silk trade has been declining also, and many weavers and others who depended on it for a living have suffered greatly. The trade in mock money has also declined very much, and many who depended on it for a living have been brought to want. A great many houses throughout the city have notices of "to let" on the doors, and the people universally complain of the hard times.

20th March.

The incense-burning season is now at its height. There are some famous temples about the city, notably one called the India Temple. The popular Goddess of Mercy here receives the worship of her votaries. In good years, probably an average of ten thousand persons a day for the space of one month's time make pilgrimages to this Mecca of Buddhism. This year crops have been bad and business is dull, so the worshippers are few. Probably it would be safe to say that they are reduced by one half. They come from towns, villages, and cities within a circuit of one hundred miles, and sometimes from still more distant places. Their chief object is to worship the Goddess, but they visit other shrines and temples that lie in their route. Many of them visit the tombs of the famous general Yoh-fei (岳飛) and his son. This distinguished general and statesman of the Sung dynasty was falsely accused of treason by Ts'in Kuei, who succeeded in procuring

an imperial mandate for his execution, which was immediately carried into effect. Succeeding generations have tried to reverse the effect of this judgment. Yoh Fei is now honoured and worshipped as the embodiment of patriotism and loyalty. In a beautiful situation on the side of the West Lake are a temple and a tomb to his memory. Just inside the gate of the enclosure surrounding the tombs are four life-sized cast-iron figures, in a kneeling position, facing the tombs and confined in stone cages, as criminals. These figures represent Ts'in Kuei, his wife, and two servants, who falsely accused the patriotic general. He is now honoured and they are disgraced. At this time, thousands of the pilgrims visit the tombs to honour the loyalty of the father and son. They also manifest their execration of the crime of the four false accusers by heaping all kinds of insults on the iron figures. The women show their aversion to the wife, especially, by rubbing their hands over her breasts, which are exposed.

It is reported that a Governor of this city, years ago, thought that the false accusers had suffered sufficient abuse in the form of the iron figures to atone for their crimes, so the figures were cast into the lake; but that night he had such dreams on the subject that he ordered new figures to be made and set up immediately. There is also a story related showing the posthumous loyalty of the patriot. When the Emperor Kien-lung visited the place, he presented a tablet praising the virtue of Yoh-fei, which was nailed up in his temple. The next morning however the tablet was found on the floor, and the interpretation was, that the departed spirit of the old general would not receive honour from one of the Tartars whom he had so heartily hated and bravely fought during his life.

21st March.

FROM SHANSI TO YUNNAN.

(NOTES OF A JOURNEY THROUGH CHINA.)

Jan. 31st. — (Continued). — We marched again at noon, having effected a junction with my men bearing the chairs and baggage from Pao-cheng Hsien. I had supposed them far ahead as they had twenty li less to do than we had, to come here. The coolies are all out of trim, and some of the poor fellows have been obliged to sell their clothing to get opium during their long stay at Liu-pa Ling. We passed through a large market-town called Huang-sha, and sighted a pagoda some distance across the river on our left front. A little later we had a range of conical hills, or mountain peaks, on our left, which looked like so many gigantic sugar loaves, piled up side by side in regular order. We halted for half-an-hour in a large market town called Tsai-yuan-tze. It is nearly a mile long, and has a busy population. I now rode in the chair for the first time in twenty days. Everyone seemed to tune up just at the right time; Sir Yiu-ting Ma on his grey pony, armed with a small tent-pole, my parasol-bearer, riding a black donkey, my loyal Teng hurrying up the baggage bearers, and all the chair-coolies at their posts, working with a will. We travelled along smartly, the road being lined with houses and hamlets, towns and villages, and people carrying goods to or from market. At a quarter-past two we sighted a city and pagoda ahead, and soon after learnt it was Mien Hsien, the city we are to stay at. We passed a temple erected to the memory of the celebrated Chu-ko Liang, who commanded the armies of Liu Pei in these parts eighteen hundred years ago. He died at Wu-jiang-yuan, near Chih-shan Hsien, and is said to have been buried here. There are over a hundred and fifty grave mounds in the temple grounds, but no one knows the exact one

that contains the ashes of the famous commander. Most officials enter the temple to pay their respects to the memory of the departed warrior; I had no time to stay, so omitted that duty. The temple is at what may be termed the bare end of the eastern suburb of Mien Hsien, and the houses, though some distance apart at first, soon grow very compact as we advance.

We halted in this suburb at the quarters prepared for us by order of the Tao-t'ai and magistrate, the yamenites being in attendance and everything in apple-pie order, but no supplies. The worthy magistrate, a new man, only a few days in office, had expressed a desire to see me before supplying anything, and announced himself as coming at once. Wishing to pay him my compliments, I went off to congratulate him on his new appointment, and was soon admitted to his presence in a rather shabbily furnished room, where, after exchanging compliments, the good man expressed a desire to reduce my allowance, saying that he had not received the private letter from the last place, and so on. I warned him that I had already been delayed by the Liu-pa magistrate, and it had cost him more than he had calculated on, and the Tao-t'ai had told me that he had sent orders to all the officials along the road to attend to my affairs at once without delay. I further added that I was not disposed to bargain; he had the regular papers and list of supplies at the last place, and ought to abide by that. On this he remarked that such papers are sometime falsified. I now told him that I was either a real official or an impostor; if a real one, travelling with regular papers, he must supply me immediately. I would brook no delay; if I was an impostor he had better place me under arrest at once, report the matter to his superiors and await instructions. To this he replied that my papers were doubtless false; on which I jumped up, called for my attendants, mounted my chair and declared I would return to Han-chung Fu for proper papers. Here the poor man gave way, begged me, prayed me, sent his men to *ko-tow* unto me all the way to my quarters, and came himself to crave an interview and apologize. But I declined to receive him, and told my men to take nothing from the yamenites, but buy our own supplies, as necessary. The whole of the yamenites then came out, and, with their master, refused to go away, but *ko-towed* to any of my men that they saw to obtain their mediation, promising to supply all that was due. After a while my men came in a body to beg me to accept the apology and rations; the cooks were in the kitchen, every thing was of the best, and I would not be delayed. I could then perceive that they had been anointed with fair words, and probably a few cash, so I consented to continue my journey, provided everything was sent at once and in full; but I declined to receive the magistrate, so he went away and called on a friend of mine just arrived at another inn, and sought his intercession. My friend came, and on hearing my account of the matter, smiled and did not attempt a word in the magistrate's favour.

January 31st. — We marched at seven o'clock, although it was snowing fast, as delays are too costly to be repeated often. Marching through the suburb we entered the city at the east gate, went through it, and out of the west gate, where a deputy from the magistrate's yamen was waiting to wish me good-bye. There are but a few houses in the city, surrounded by cultivated fields. We crossed a small valley and stream on the right and went up the main valley, with the Han River close on our left. Ducks and divers disported themselves in the river, whilst solitary doves sought their food along the roadside. Various other birds, such as stone-jacks, wag-tails, magpies, eagles and crows were

also on the look-out for food, wherever the ground was visible or partly clear of snow. We crossed a small river in a ferry boat and passed cultivated fields, farms and hamlets here and there, and quite a number of junks, some fifty to sixty feet in length, with mat houses over them, and, I judge, capable of carrying some 3,000 lbs. in weight, or say twenty piculs of rice or coal. At noon we passed through a market-town called Chu-pu Wan, where some 800 to 1,000 people were busy exchanging commodities of various kinds. We halted for breakfast in another town, called Chai-pa, with a population of forty to fifty families, the other town having eighty families or so. A small camp on the brow of a hill at the back overlooks both towns, and the river is the end of all things in the way of navigation on the upper Han Water. It is distant from Mien Hsien about forty li, called forty-five. The weather soon cleared up, the snow on the road and roofs melted, and we resumed our slippery journey, passing a turbine on the move under a volume of water sufficient to drive several properly made turbines. We ascended a stiff, rocky bluff, then descended into a small valley, having a succession of rice fields right and left, clumps of small bamboos in full leaf around many of the hamlets, and coir trees and tung trees at the foot of hills, or on their sloping sides. The straw in these parts is stacked up around any trees near the farms, elevated in some cases several feet from the ground, forming a sort of petticoat for the trees. We passed a bed of shale, or poor coal, and rotten stone, and halted at the large market town called Ta-nan-yi, which has a population of 250 families, and is some thirty li distant from our last place, the whole day's journey being only seventy li, instead of ninety, as the natives say it is. Here I am again on known ground.

The great Kung-ming Hsien-sheng is said to have saved the city of Mien Hsien from being captured by Sze-ma Yi and Ts'ao Ts'ao's troops by a simple stratagem, without the aid of troops. It is said that on the approach of Sze-ma Yi and his army, the city was defenceless, so Kung-ming ordered the people to stay at home whilst he ascended one of the gate towers with his lute and strumming this in a nonchalant manner, ordered the city gates to be thrown open to the enemy, and thus awaited the result. The van-guard of the enemy's troops, commanded by Sze-ma Yi's two sons, approached, but fearing an ambush did not enter. Sze-ma Yi himself was the most apprehensive of danger, knowing Kung-ming's great sagacity in defending any position. The enemy then retired and left Kung-ming free to order some troops from the nearest stations to come and defend the place he had thus saved by his wisdom.

We met four Koreans, or Japanese in Korean costumes, travelling on foot; returning from Cheng-tu and other parts of Szechuan. They appeared to be entirely without baggage of any description, and unaccompanied by Chinese; so they must make use of the filthy native quilts to cover themselves with at night, although they appear quite clean and respectable.

THE DISTURBANCE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF WEI-CHAU.

Poklo-city, 13th March, 1884.

Though I am not in a position to give any reliable information concerning the recent disturbance in the Kwei-shien district, it may be interesting to you to learn something about the state and condition of the adjoining country from one who has been there.

I left Canton on the 19th February by Chinese passage-boat, and arrived at Poklo-city on the 22nd. The people, both in the city and in the country, seemed to be very

quiet. Some were astonished to see a foreigner travel about in 'these bad times,' but to many I was known, and to others my appearance was rather comforting, for they thought that I would not have come into the country if 'down below' in Canton things were not quiet. I was told that among other sports and games which the good people of Poklo had enjoyed during the new year festivities, they had a sailor, dressed in the garb of a foreigner, put into chains and fictitiously executed. In passing a village two miles north of Wei-chau city all the children and youth came out to the river side where I was. Some had bows and arrows, and all followed me shouting 'Kill the foreign devil.' But such scenes one must expect now-a-days, and they are rather amusing, though the amusement they yield is perhaps more relished by the Chinese than by the singular specimen of the barbarian race. As to the disturbance of the country by a rebellion which is said to have broken out in Wei-chau, I received the first warning on the 25th of February on my return to Poklo from a visit to the neighbouring villages. It was then said that several hundred soldiers and also some mandarins had been killed by the rebels, and that the high mandarins of Wei-chau had gone down to Canton to fetch soldiers. Though I was for a moment somewhat frightened, I soon made up my mind not to believe the reports of the Chinese.

The following day I left Poklo and went farther up the East river to a place called Kot-liang. This lies three miles west from the market of Shui-hau at the East river, and 16 miles north-west from Wei-chau city. I stayed there from the 27th Feb. till the 3rd of March. Here I heard every day the most exciting reports. It was said that the rebels had encamped at 稔山; and that they numbered 70,000. The people in the market places and villages, both in the Kwei-shien and Poklo district, were terribly frightened. Nobody seemed to have the slightest confidence in the mandarins and their soldiers, and it was thought possible that the rebels might come to Poklo in two days if they chose. On the 3rd of March I went to Tai-mooi, a market-place twenty-five miles north of Poklo-city (by river nearly fifty miles). There also the people talked day and night about rebellion. If no news came from Wei-chau, the T'ai-p'ing rebellion in the fourth year of Han Fung was the topic. Of this event every little instance was recalled to the mind and talked over and over again.

One day it was reported that the people near Wei-chau city had fled from their villages into the walled city, whilst the people of Poklo city had nearly all left to hide themselves in the mountains. Soldiers were mustered everywhere, and the boats were stopped officially to convey them to Wei-chau. Many of the merchants closed their shops; others took most of their stores down to Shuk-lung and Canton. The price of rice was sinking daily. The farmers hesitated in tilling their fields. The young men deliberated whether it was better to become a rebel or to be enlisted as a soldier. It is impossible to form an adequate idea of the amount of talk, the mutual distrust and the utter helplessness of the people in this country, if one has not been among them in such times.

By and bye the elders of the villages met to find means how to watch the suspicious characters in their midst. Volunteer corps have also been formed in the villages and are practising daily with the usual noise.

On the 6th of March a messenger came to me from Foo-chuk-p'ai, a Basel Mission station in Wing-on, where two German missionaries, a lady and two children live. This messenger was sent to Poklo to look me up, and was glad to find me already in Tai Mooi. I wrote to my friends that I did not regard the situation as serious and

thought that nearly all was empty talk of the Chinese. Even if those rumors should be true, I had no doubt that the mandarins would be able to suppress the disturbance, especially since they need not be afraid that the French would come to Canton. I may mention here that there was also a rumor in the country that the French would come to Canton on the 15th of March.

Yesterday, the 12th, I returned overland to this city and was not a little surprised to find that indeed two-thirds of the population have left it. On the 4th of March, in the afternoon, I was told the cry was heard 'The Rebels come,' when a terrible panic came over the people, many of whom ran off with wild excitement. Though the mandarin had hired 200 soldiers to watch on the wall, these braves were the foremost to run away. Since that day, the people who could afford it have moved. Nobody believes that the walls of the city are sufficient protection against rebels, or that the soldiers will be able to defend the city. All remember how easily it was taken by the T'ai-p'ing rebels, and are therefore ready to abandon it at a moment's notice. Even the mandarin has a boat lying ready in the river for any case of exigency. The people have now seen several thousand soldiers pass the city and go to Wei-chau. It is also said that the rebels have gone to a market called Pak-mong-fa, which lies about 30 miles east of Wei-chau city.

As to the cause of this insurrection, there are several versions.

Some say it is the Triad Society which has risen in rebellion. Others report that the disturbance arose from a guard concerning the salt-fields near the coast.

It is also stated that the immediate cause of the trouble is the extortion of money on the part of the mandarin. It is perhaps not generally known that it is a custom with the mandarins, both literary and military, if they want money, to 'settle an old case,' as the phrase is. This trick it seems was tried lately by the mandarin of Wei-chau, when he met with the opposition of several strong and numerous clans. This seems to me very near the truth. It is at least much less probable that the rebels are pirates who are supported by the French, as many Chinese are inclined to believe.

I still think that the Mandarins will be able to check the insurrection, but most of the Chinese seem to have their doubts about this, and all are more or less afraid that the rebellion may soon spread all over the country. The rebels are said to have the four characters '逼反良民' 'good people compelled to revolt' on their flag, which would show sufficiently that they are dissatisfied with the government.

In closing this report I may add that the news has come to Poklo to-day that there has been a fight in Pak-mong fa, and that the rebels were defeated.—China Mail.

R. LIOHLER.

HAIDUONG AND BACNINH.

Haiduong, which is the capital of the province of that name, has evidently been one of the wealthiest cities of the Delta. Besides its political importance it is situated in one of the richest agricultural districts in the Delta, of which it was recently the commercial centre, and a large trade was carried on in rice, drugs, silk and cotton goods, principally by Chinese merchants, a large number of whom were established in the town until a recent date. Now, however, the city presents a scene of dreary desolation; streets and roads which were formerly lined with fine brick houses, of two or more storeys, are now reduced to heaps of brick and stone, with a few bare and detached walls only remaining to show where well built stores and dwellings once stood. This wholesale destruction was effected by the hordes of

Chinese and Annamites who sacked and burnt the town on the 17th November last, when the small French garrison, then in the citadel, would have been annihilated but for the timely arrival of the gunboat *Lynx*.

The citadel, where the troops are now quartered, is of large dimensions, rectangular in form, and, as usual, surrounded with strong walls and a moat. I was shown the wing or corner which was held by about forty French soldiers, against tremendous odds, for a day and a night in the affair of November. Capital roads have now been made about the place by the military authorities, the debris of brick and stone scattered plentifully around being used. There is in the town a fine church or cathedral, built by the Spanish mission about four years since, and this building, together with the neighbouring premises inhabited by the padres and some of their proselytes, appear to have been saved from the almost universal destruction of property in the city.

The citadel of Bacninh is of hexagonal form, with bastion fronts, each a thousand feet in length. It is surrounded with a moat, which is crossed by four permanent bridges. The town lies close to the citadel on the line of the road to Hanoi. The surrounding country is a swampy plain, dotted about with a few detached hillocks, the nearest of which, from the side of the Canal, are situated about two miles from the citadel, which lies about three miles from the river and four to five from the Canal des Rapides.—China Mail Cor.

COREA.

In connection with the establishment of the Customs' Service in Corea, it is very evident that the Government authorities are regretting that they paid so dear for their whistle. The correspondent of the *Mainichi Shimbun* throws considerable light on the present situation, which seems to savour strongly of a muddle. "In November last," he writes, "many foreigners were engaged in the duly-established Customs' Service. Owing, however, to the great falling off in trade, the Customs' revenue has not sufficed to cover the working expenses, and the salaries of the foreign employés are sadly in arrear. The Korean Government has, in consequence, proposed to engage Japanese employés instead of European, on account of the lower wages. But Herr von Möllendorff has positively refused to sanction this idea, stating that it would be most unfair to cast off the foreign employés after only six months' service. No further steps have been taken in consequence."

This is, however, not the end of the matter. Only a few weeks ago we were informed that Herr von Möllendorff's popularity was decidedly on the wane; and, despite his influential position as Vice President of the Foreign Office, his authoritative interference in the little plans of the Korean Government is certain to become decidedly distasteful to the authorities. The Chinese loan of \$200,000, brought mainly by the exertions of the energetic Vice President, has "softly and silently vanished away" in the establishment of a Customs' Service and a few other ornamental etceteras. The people are suffering severely from the great decrease in trade, and the foreign trade is gradually coming back to its one-time status—Zero. *Ex nihilo nihil*: 'tis a wise saying, and not without a moral.—Japan Mail.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

January 9th.—Report from Wên Yü explaining the way in which he managed to accumulate the fortune deposited in the Fu K'ang Bank (already published.)

January 10th.—(1) A Decree expressing the Imperial regrets at the announcement of the death of Wên Pao-shên, formerly Junior Vice-President of the Board of Revenue. All official penalties recorded against his name are to be cancelled, and the posthumous honours allotted to officers of the rank he held on retirement are to be bestowed upon him.

(2) Memorial from the Board of Civil Office announcing the penalties to which the Governor of Kueichow and his subordinates have rendered themselves liable for the peculations and embezzlements brought to His Majesty's notice by the Censors Hsiung Ching-liu and Chang P'ei-lun. (See *Gazette*) of 5th and 7th January.)

(3) A report from the Governor-General of Szechuen on the same subject, which has already been summarised in an earlier decree.

January 11th.—(1) A Decree taking the Governor-General Tso Tsung-t'ang severely to task for having ventured in his report announcing the death of Wên Pao-shên (referred to in yesterday's issue) to ask His Majesty to bestow a posthumous name upon that officer; the Governor-General also states that he and the deceased stood in the relation of master and disciple towards each other. The alteration of a name, as was enunciated by Decree in the 12th year of T'ung Chih, is an honour which must be spontaneously bestowed by the Throne, and cannot be solicited by any officer whatsoever. In making this proposition, and in the language he uses, Tso Tsung-t'ang has been guilty of considerable impropriety. He will accordingly be committed to the Board for the determination of a penalty.

(2) A Decree. Some time since Hsi Chên, formerly Imperial Resident in Thibet, memorialised the Throne praying that the sums deposited in the Fu K'ang Bank might be recovered and applied to public purposes. As the proposal was one of a very tricky character, We sent his memorial back to him. The Censor Chên Po-yüan now represents that when Hsi Chên was serving in the Board of Revenue he, Yao Chin-yan, Tung Tsun-han, and Ch'i Hsiu worked together in the perpetration of frauds, and Hsi Chên's family has the reputation of being enormously wealthy. Hsi Chên has long been in retirement on the ground of ill-health, and We will not enquire too closely into by-gone matters. Nevertheless, as the Censor points out, Hsi Chên has been of inexcusable presumption in troubling Us upon this subject, and he will be committed to the Board for the determination of a severe form of penalty. The Board concerned will ascertain whether officers on sick furlough whose leave has not been cancelled have or have not the right to memorialise the Throne.

(3) A joint Memorial from Tso Tsung-t'ang and Yang Ch'ang-chün, Director General of Grain Transport, reporting the measures they have taken to check the tide of famine refugees that is steadily setting towards the south. Being apprehensive of such an immigration, the Memorialist Tso had already directed that refugees should be established at Yang-chow, Ch'ing-chiang and Hsiu-chow, while orders were given to the local authorities along the line of route that the tide of immigration must come to their best to stop the progress of these refugees. Before the arrangements for their reception could be completed these refugees began to flock southward in one continuous stream, and as Ch'ing-chiang is the point at which the roads and waterway connecting the north and south converge, there was a pressure of wanderers at this point whose gaunt and hungry looks, and scanty clothing, betokened poverty of an extreme kind. Prompt measures were necessary to prevent them crossing the river and spreading in the southern provinces, where they would be further than ever from their homes, and would form

an element of danger, while the northern provinces would be shorn of their agricultural population. Fourteen refugees were accordingly run up with all despatch, each being surrounded with an embankment and ditch, into which the refugees were taken and provided for, arrivals previous to their completion being provided with cash to buy food and keep them from going further astray. Medical attendance was supplied, and the dead buried, while three enclosures were set apart as hospitals for the sick, lying-in wards, and hospitals for the reception of smallpox patients and those that were ill of infectious diseases. During the first ten days or so after the opening of these refuges more than 40,000 strangers were taken in, housed and fed. The congregation of so many destitute people is, the Memorialist is aware, an element of danger requiring the utmost precaution, and to meet this danger the first essential is that they shall have enough to eat. As a precaution against disturbance he has placed the General Chang Ho-ts'ai in military control of all arrangements. For Decree see *Gazette* of 22nd Dec., 1883.

January 12th.—(1) Wu-la-pu (烏拉布) is appointed Secretary of the Grand Secretariat with the brevet rank of Vice-President of the Board of Ceremonies.

Chang Hsiu-chai (張緒楷) is appointed Director of the Court of Sacrificial Worship.

January 13th.—(1) A Postscript Memorial from Chang Chih-tung, Governor of Shansi, praying that a regular percentage may be allowed on all accounts of provincial expenditure incurred in the suppression of rebellion that are audited by the Board of Revenue. He makes this suggestion with the object of avoiding the recurrence of such scandals as have been recently brought to light in the audit of the "Yunnan Rebellion Account," when some thirty and more officials, provincial and metropolitan, with their underlings, were denounced and punished. Circular instructions with reference to the manner in which this class of accounts are to be furnished having been sent to the provinces by the Boards of Revenue, War and Works, the Memorialist would venture to suggest with reference thereto, that according to his view of human nature no warnings will restrain the avaricious nor laws prevent officials predisposed thereto from the commission of dishonest acts. Something ought nevertheless to be done to prevent the recurrence of such abuses as have lately been brought to light, and he begs to propose that some regular system of *fan yin*, or maintenance allowances, as they are called, should be instituted. Provincial Governments are authorised by law to charge a certain percentage on land-tax accounts transmitted to the Board for audit, which percentage goes by the name of a "maintenance allowance." In Shansi, for instance, the "maintenance allowance" drawn by the Board on the land-tax account is some Tls. 1,750, with Tls. 1,200 on the grain tribute account from Ta-tung and Lo-p'ing, both of which sums are charged to the exchange account. A percentage of Tls. 60 is also assigned to the Board on the accounts sent in of expenditure for civil and military examinations. On the salt account they receive Tls. 600, and so forth. The Memorialist has been told that years ago although the Board of Revenue did charge fees on all military accounts sent up for audit, these were fees limited in extent, and as a more honest tone prevailed amongst the official class, whose members in those days were actuated by a proper feeling of self respect, it was only the underlings of the Board that derived any benefit from these fees. During the reign Hsien Feng the participation of the secretaries in these charges began to attract attention, and in the reign T'ung Chih metropolitan officials who were virtually outsiders were admitted to a

share of the spoil, while the abuse has grown inordinately during the last four or five years. Now it is hardly likely that an abuse which has been the growth of years can be uprooted in a single day, and in the Memorialist's opinion, as the clerks of the Boards are morally certain to make some money out of the auditing of these accounts, a certain allowance should be made for their proclivities, and an organised system of charges instituted, which shall be on a sufficiently liberal scale to prevent any complaints on the part of the clerks that it will not cover the charges for stationery and so forth that these *fan yin* are supposed to meet. Now by the old assessment, the land tax of Shansi is set down at Tls. 3,200,000, on which a "maintenance allowance" is provided of Tls. 1750, or about one twentieth per cent. The Memorialist would now propose that the more liberal allowance of one tenth per cent be granted for the passing by the Board of accounts of sums expended for military or "reorganisation" purposes. This arrangement will provide the clerks in the Board with their stationery and so forth, and if the Board will give their sanction, there is not a single Commander-in-chief or provincial high authority who will not gladly put the rule in practice.—Referred to the Board concerned.

(2) In a Postscript Memorial the same officer requests authority to dismiss a certain District Magistrate who, in addition to wilful neglect of instructions conveyed to his predecessor regarding the settlement of an appeal case, and the excessive levy of charges upon the people, has neglected to show proper energy in enforcing the interdict against the cultivation of the poppy. He went so far indeed as to tax the yield in many places under pretext of augmenting the *likin* revenue.—Granted by Rescript.

January 14th.—(1) A long Memorial from Chang Chih-tung, Governor of Shansi, with regard to a proposal submitted by a Censor that the Provincial Governments should remit to Peking certain funds drawn from their local revenues for the provision of allowances to metropolitan officials, that these may be placed beyond the necessity of eking out their incomes by the acceptance of bribes or annexation of perquisites, a proposal which His Majesty was pleased to sanction in the month of May, 1883, through the medium of the Board of Revenue.

On receipt of instructions to the above effect, the Memorialist directed the Financial and Judicial Commissioners, in conjunction with the Salt Comptroller and the Grain Intendant, to provide for the remittance out of the public funds deposited in the provincial exchequer, and the salt tax receipts, and, as has been duly reported to the Board of Revenue, the full amount was sent to Peking during the month of November last. While recognising the necessity of providing the allowances in the interests of purity of government, Memorialist would nevertheless venture to urge that the funds so supplied should be drawn from a regular source provided it does not trench upon current official expenditure of a fixed nature. In support of this suggestion he begs to advance a series of objections to the proposal of the Censor, that provincial governments shall not be required to submit such allowances to the audit of the Board of Revenue, but get the money where they can.

1.—The recipients of the grant, being ignorant of the source from whence the money is derived, will feel themselves placed in a false position.

2.—Allowances of this nature, if they are not subjected to the audit of the Board, will savour of eleemosynary aid, and the result will be that the officials to whom they are made will be perpetually writing to the provincial high authorities pleading poverty as an excuse for pressing for payment, thereby covering the government with disgrace.

3.—Those who have to remit the money will naturally object to be regarded by metropolitan officials in the light of Bank agents charged with the collection and custody of their private incomes.

4.—The total amount to be remitted for distribution amongst the metropolitan officials has been fixed by the Board of Revenue at Tls. 260,000 per annum. The Memorialist ventures to think that when this sum comes to be apportioned the amount payable to each individual officer will be so insignificant as to render nugatory any attempt of the Board to place these officials above the temptation of accepting bribes.

5.—The Memorialist is further of opinion that as the money is not to be accounted for in the usual manner, any neglect to forward remittances will not render provincial officials liable to censure. When the first remittance falls due no effort will consequently be made to collect the amount, heavy deficits will follow, and as these cannot be claimed after a lapse of five years to the extent of more than one half, the arrears will accumulate to a considerable extent. Under such circumstances remarks will certainly be made by those who receive less than their allotted grant which will not be flattering to the government, while any attempt to cause the Board of Revenue to make good the deficit would entail a continuous drain upon their resources which they would not long be able to sustain. Difficulties would then arise in the settlement of accounts.

A suggestion has been thrown out that it would be a more dignified and constitutional mode of proceeding were the regular public funds to be charged with the payment of these allowances, but against this suggestion the Memorialist would urge the impoverished condition of the public exchequer which entails economy and care in every department of expenditure. No partiality can be shown in the provision of one particular item.

The Memorialist is at one with the Board of Revenue in their desire to protect the regular sources of the national income, and his object in now addressing His Majesty is to discover some means whereby the wish of the Board be respected and at the same time the allowances granted, which should be sufficient to meet the requirements of the case, shall be a regular item of expenditure, and the payments subjected to the audit of the Board.

There are three sources from whence the money might be drawn:—

(a).—The ten per cent. *likin* collections which provincial governments are allowed to retain for local requirements.

(b).—The miscellaneous taxes on salt.

(c).—The balance of Customs duties remaining in hand after remitting the regular assessment to Peking.

Under the first heading, from twenty to thirty per cent. should be applied to the payment of these allowances. The total provided by the various provinces would amount to no inconsiderable amount, and the audit of the accounts would show what the total of the ten per cent. of the *likin* collections actually amounted to.

As regards the second source, salt collectors are allowed to levy two kinds of tax on salt, viz: the regular tax and miscellaneous charges, fees, etc. Although the system under which these latter are exacted varies in different provinces, the procedure in all cases is more or less uniform. In Shanai, for instance, they amount to more than Tls. 270,000, of which sum Tls. 26,800 is assigned by law for the payment of anti-extortion allowances to the salt officials, maintenance allowance for the Board of Revenue, expenses of remitting money, office charges for stationery, etc., entertainment, and so forth. From this sum also comes the salaries of Bachelors of the Han-lin Yuan. Ten per cent. of these miscellaneous charges are given to the provincial government and have not to

be accounted for to the Board. Twenty to thirty per cent. of this last amount might, with care and economy, be set aside towards furnishing the allowance to Peking officials.

Lastly, as regards the surplus of the Customs revenue, which, by a Decree issued last year has all to be sent to Peking, the Memorialist thinks that this amount might be paid into the metropolitan salary augmentation fund. The total revenue collected in the eighteen provinces from Customs duties salt and *tekin* amounts to upwards of Tls. 30,000,000, and ten per cent. on this sum gives three million taels odd from which to draw the proposed two to three tenths. The former rate will give some Tls. 600,000, while three-tenths would give nearly Tls. 1,000,000 to be remitted annually to Peking as a fixed assessment. If Tls. 500 are granted to each official, and the estimate of the Board is correct, Tls. 700,000 will suffice, and although the addition to their salaries will not exactly place officials beyond the reach of all future anxiety for themselves and their families, it will secure at least their deep gratitude and attachment to the Throne. If this amount be compared with the enormous sums which His Majesty annually pays for soldiers which exist only on paper, useless officials, defaulting magistrates and extortionate underlings, it should certainly not be a matter of regret that such a charge is laid upon the public funds, when the object in view is purity and reform in the chief offices of state. Referred by Rescript to the Board of Revenue.

2.—In a Postscript Memorial the same officer criticises the scale of allowances that the Board propose to allot under the scheme referred to. These allowances are to range from Tls. 20 to Tls. 200 and if official rank be taken as the basis of allotment some offices will not he thinks be fairly treated. Compilers and Graduates of the Han-lin Yuan, in particular, will be badly off, while Censors though better paid will receive but an insignificant increase.

The learning and talent of the Empire centre in the Han-lin Yuan and the Imperial Supervisorate of Instruction. The members of these institutions should therefore be placed in such a condition pecuniarily as to allow them to devote their whole time and attention to qualifying for the highest offices of the state. Officials attached to the Boards have numerous emoluments paid to them in addition to their salaries, but no such allowances are given to the Han-lin Yuan or Supervisorate of Instruction. Compilers and Graduates, being officers only of the 5th grade, would not be adequately paid if they were assigned the allowance of their rank, while the allowance of Supervisors and Censors whose duties are more onerous and their expenses greater, should certainly be placed in a position that will enable them to maintain their dignity and give effect to their denunciations. The smallest amount that a Peking official can live upon is one tael a day. As the officers of the Han-lin and Supervisorate to receive allowances are two hundred and eighty respectively, the addition of Tls. 360 per annum to each officer's salary will involve an increased expenditure of Tls. 100,000, which the Board should find no difficulty in raising; indeed, a more generous and liberal scale would be Tls. 500 per man. Poor as the province of Shansi is, the Memorialist is ready to contribute towards this fund proportionately with other provinces, his wish and object being to encourage ability amongst the members of the public service, and to promote frankness of speech amongst the Censors, to the benefit of the public at large.—Rescript: "Read."

January 15th.—(1) A Decree. The Bordered Red Banner Corps begs to be instructed to what Yamen *Ho-shé*, or sons of Imperial Princes of the second order, and of *Ngo-fu*, or husbands of Imperial

Princesses, are to be relegated for duty. Let Wen Hsi, adopted son of the *Ho-shé* princess (daughter of an inferior Imperial Consort) Shou Ts'ang, who holds the rank of *Ho-shé Ngo-fu* (husband of an Imperial princess of the second rank (?)) be assigned to the Department of the Imperial Body Guard, to be presented at Court after the opening of the seals next (Chinese) year.

Kuei Ts'un (貴存) is appointed Superintendent of Imperial Manufactories at Nanking.

(3) A Decree. The Board of Ceremonies have this day reported to Us that on the 10th day of the 3rd moon of the coming year (April 4th 1884) three complete years will have elapsed since the death of Her Majesty the senior Empress Dowager. They beg to be instructed whether or no a Prince should be deputed to perform the sacrificial observances on Our behalf. As We reverently reflect that since the remains of Her departed Majesty were laid to rest, We have never been able to go in person to Her Mountain Tomb, bathed as it has been since that time with the dews of spring and the hoar frost of autumn time, Our grief and disappointment are more than we can bear. We had promised Ourselves that we would repair to the Mausoleum in person in the 3rd moon next year on the 3rd anniversary of Her Majesty's decease, to give vent in a small degree to the sincerity of Our reverential admiration. In view, however, of the extreme gravity of the disasters by flood with which the environs of the metropolis have this year been invaded, and the extraordinary condition of distress into which Our people have been plunged, the requisition of the route to the Mausoleum, and the necessity of providing for our passage would entail upon them a burden too great for them to bear. We are therefore constrained to adapt our wishes to the necessity of the time, and accordingly command Prince Kung, when the time arrives, respectfully to repair to the P'u Hsiang Yü and reverently perform the sacrificial observances in our stead. Early on the morning of the 9th day of the moon he will also perform the expiatory sacrifice (1) Let all the Yamen concerned reverently make the necessary preparations.

(3) His Majesty announces his intention of offering further prayers for snow upon the 18th inst.

(4) A Decree referring to a Memorial presented some days since by the Censor Liu Eu-po reporting a case in which a woman, a native of Anhui, who had come to Peking to present a petition had been murdered, and the district police had reported her decease as resulting from natural causes. On receipt of this Memorial the Office of Gendarmerie were commanded to enquire into the circumstances of the case. They report that the district police authorities and constables have been submitted to vigorous questioning, and from their evidence it appears that in the month of December last a woman, name unknown, died in one of the Watch Stations. The soldier in charge of the beat, being afraid of getting into trouble, removed the body to some ice on the bank of the moat; he positively refused to divulge anything else, and it is now requested that the said soldier, Chao Hsi, and eight others, may be handed over to the Board for trial and punishment. That Board will submit these men to a strict examination, and the responsible district military officers will all be removed from their posts and hold themselves in readiness to be summoned for interrogation.

January 16th.—(1) Chih Yüan (志元,) is appointed Director of the Imperial Banqueting Court, and Ming Kuei (明桂,) Director of the Court of Sacrificial Worship.

(2) Hsu T'ung, President of the Board of Ceremonies, and Hsueh Yün-sheng, Vice-President of the Board of Punishments, are directed to proceed by Government post to Fêng-t'ien on a mission of special enquiry.

(3) Liu Jui-fên, formerly Taotai at Shanghai, reports his assumption of the duties of Financial Commissioner of Kiangai, to which post he has recently been promoted.

(4) A report from the officers in charge of the Imperial Mausolea, reporting the trial and sentence of a soldier who had climbed on to the outer wall of one of the Imperial Tombs, and had tried to steal a brass cap on the flanking tower at the corner of the wall. For this act of sacrilege he has been condemned to receive one hundred blows with the heavy bamboo and to be banished to a distance of 3,000 li. In the course of their report the Memorialists quote a law which enacts that anyone who climbs over the wall of the Imperial city shall be punished with death by strangulation.

January 17th and 18th.—From this date until the close of the new year's holidays the *Gazette* appears only on alternate days.

(1) A joint Memorial from Sé-lêng-o, Imperial Resident in Tibet, and Oh'ung Kang, his condutor, reporting that the latter has held the periodical inspection of the three Chinese Garrisons stationed in Altior Tibet and has made the usual survey of the frontier. He started for Altior Tibet by way of the route known as the Yang Pa Ching (羊八井) or lesser road. On arriving at Tashilumbo, or the "Mountain of Blessings," he did homage to the Sacred Portrait (of the Emperor?), and then proceeded to hold a review of the Chinese and native troops. This completed, he went to Ting-jih (定日) where he also reviewed the troops and took the opportunity of inspecting the frontier stations at Niehlamu and other points, where he found everything quiet. Maps were presented by the authorities of the respective regions under their control, and the usual guarantees were given, the Memorialist Oh'ung Kang exhorting them to be diligent in the maintenance of watch and ward, which warning he emphasised by the bestowal of presents which had in every instance a most stimulating effect. He then turned back to Ulterior Tibet and took the great road to Chiangtzu (江孜) where he also held a review. He has the honour to report that he found the troops, Chinese and Tibetan, efficient in each branch of drill, viz: in evolutions, mimic assault of hills, attacks on barriers, volley firing, shield, sword and lance practice. Both officers and soldiers made good shooting in foot and horse archery practice, as well as with the fowling piece, though in the latter class there were several degrees of merit; the average was nevertheless up to the standard. Those who showed the greatest proficiency were liberally rewarded, and their names were recorded for promotion, while to those whose skill was less marked presents of silk and satin purses, small knives and tea were given. The inefficient were publicly reprimanded on the drill ground, and the majors, captains and other officers, as well as the native commandants were sternly cautioned to be diligent in drill and to bring all their men up to a perfect condition of strength and efficiency. During the progress of his journey onwards he fell in with the Tibetan officers who had been sent to Chi-lung (濟隆) on the frontier (? of Nepal) to try and settle the indemnity to be paid to the *Palopi* (Nepalese) traders who had lost their property (see *Gazette* of 20th June 1883.) These two officers held the rank of *Kablon*, or Councillor of State, and one was also a *Kung* or noble of the first rank. The Memorialist verbally repeated the orders they had received to deal with this case in a just and equitable manner, and to settle it with all despatch,

telling them that the object they must bear in mind should be so to satisfy the feelings of the outer barbarians as to prevent any further disturbances taking place and maintain the safety of the frontier. He returned to Lassa on the 26th of October. He found that seasonable rain had fallen in all the parts of Anterior Tibet through which he passed, and that the natives were well pleased with the plentiful harvest they had gathered.—Rescript: It is noted.

Official Papers.

THE CO-OPERATION OF NEUTRAL POWERS FOR THE PROTECTION OF THEIR SUBJECTS IN CHINA.

From the Correspondence between H.M.'s Secretary of State and the British Ambassadors at Berlin, St. Petersburg, Rome, Lisbon, Washington, and Japan, lately presented to Parliament, we take the following. These are the most interesting and important portions of the Correspondence, which was commenced in November last, in view of the possibility of war between France and China. Earl Granville began by addressing despatch No. 1 to H.M.'s Representatives at Berlin and Washington:—

EARL GRANVILLE TO HER MAJESTY'S REPRESENTATIVES AT BERLIN AND WASHINGTON.

Foreign Office, 21st Nov., 1883.

MY LORD,

SIR,
In view of the crisis which appears to be imminent in China, I have to request your Excellency to propose to the German Government that the British and German Admirals should be instructed to concert together in case of necessity for the protection of their respective nationals. I have instructed Her Majesty's Minister at Washington in a similar sense.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

The following replies were received:—
LORD AMPHILL TO EARL GRANVILLE.
(Received by telegraph, 23rd Nov.)
Berlin, 23rd Nov., 1883.

MY LORD,—With reference to your Lordship's telegram of the 21st instant, I have the honour to state that Count Hatzfeldt called on me this evening to say that the German Government were much obliged for the proposal conveyed in your Lordship's telegram that orders should be sent to the British and German Admirals in the China seas to concert together for the adoption of measures for the protection of British and German subjects in case of war between France and China, and would be glad of some further exchange of views regarding details before sending the instructions suggested by your Lordship.

Count Hatzfeldt added that he would write me a note on the subject as soon as he had spoken to the German Marine Minister, General Caprivi di Montecuculi.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) AMPHILL.

MR. WEST TO EARL GRANVILLE.

(Received 24th November, 8.30 p.m.)
(Telegraphic.)

Washington, 24th Nov., 1883.

Your Lordship's telegram of the 21st. American Admiral will be instructed to act in concert with the vessels of England and other neutral Powers for the protection of their respective subjects.

Threedays later the Ambassador at Berlin telegraphed that the German Government "had determined to send instructions to the German Admiral on the Chinese station to concert measures with the British Admiral in the sense suggested by the British Government for the protection of our respective subjects."

The United States Secretary of State wrote as follows to the English Ambassador at Washington:—

MR. FREELINGHUYSEN TO MR. WEST.

Department of State,

Washington, 24th Nov., 1883.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 22nd inst., in which you state that Earl Granville has instructed you to propose to the Government of the United States that orders be sent to the American and British Admirals in relation to the apparently impending crisis in China.

In reply, I have the honour to inform you that the President has directed instructions to be sent to the Admiral commanding the Asiatic squadron of the United States to act in concert with the vessels of England and other neutral European or American Powers in protecting the lives and property of our and their citizens, taking care to observe the strict neutrality of this Government.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) FREDERICK T. FREELINGHUYSEN.

The Correspondence in which the French Foreign Office was concerned was:—

EARL GRANVILLE TO VISCOUNT LYONS.

Foreign Office, 5th December, 1883.

MY LORD,—I have to inform your Excellency that, after sounding the German and United States' Governments, Her Majesty's Government have proposed to all the neutral Powers who have men-of-war on the China station to concert, if war should unfortunately break out between France and China, for the protection of neutrals.

I am, &c.,

(Signed.) GRANVILLE.

EARL GRANVILLE TO VISCOUNT LYONS.

Foreign Office, 11th Dec., 1883.

MY LORD,—The French Ambassador made some observations to me this afternoon on the subject of the statement made by Lord Hartington with regard to the difference between France and China, and the proposed action of other Powers, and the comments which had appeared on the subject in the English press.

I told M. Waddington that Lord Hartington's remarks had apparently been misconstrued, and that some of the statements which had appeared in the papers were also misleading, but that the actual facts were intelligible enough. I added that your Excellency had been prepared to offer to M. Ferry any explanations that might have been necessary, but that as M. Ferry had had an opportunity of alluding to the subject in conversation with you, and had not done so, you had not thought it necessary to enter upon the subject.

The proposal which had been made, and which had been received favourably by the Governments concerned, had simply been that those Powers who had vessels in Chinese waters should instruct their naval Commanders to concert together with the view of affording protection to foreign subjects in the event of a rupture between France and China. It was unnecessary to say that any measures which might be adopted in such a case would be taken in a friendly spirit both to France and China.

M. Waddington thanked me, and gave me the assurances that the French Government had no intention of going beyond the programme they had announced, unless forced to it by some extraordinary act on the part of China, and that they would do their utmost to avoid any measures of a nature to interfere with legitimate foreign trade such as a blockade of the Treaty ports.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

VISCOUNT LYONS TO EARL GRANVILLE.

(Received December 13th.)

(Extract.) Paris, December 11, 1883.

The Marquis Tseng called upon me this afternoon and said that he had seen in the

newspapers that Great Britain had come to an agreement with other Powers relative to the affairs of China. He added that he should be very much obliged if I would tell him frankly and confidentially what was the purport of this agreement.

I answered that Her Majesty's Government had simply proposed to all the neutral Powers having ships of war on the China Station to concert for the protection neutrals, if (which God forbid) war should unhappily break out between China and France.

VISCOUNT LYONS TO EARL GRANVILLE.—

(Received 14th December.)

Paris, 13th December, 1883.

MY LORD.—M. Jules Ferry said to me yesterday that it appeared that some understanding, with a view to joint action on the part of their naval forces in China, had been proposed by Great Britain to other Powers. Could I, he asked, give him any definite information on the subject.

I answered that Her Majesty's Government had in fact proposed to all the neutral Powers, who had men-of-war on the China Station, to concert for the protection of neutrals if war should unfortunately break out between France and China.

M. Jules Ferry went on to say that some little time ago Prince Hohenlohe, the German Ambassador, had come to him with a suggestion from Germany, that in consequence of the then recent outbreak at Canton the several Powers, France included, should send gunboats to that place for the protection of their subjects, and should agree that the command of the united force should be taken by the officer of highest rank, to whatever nation he might belong. M. Jules Ferry had, he told me, agreed to the suggestion. The command would, he supposed, devolve upon Great Britain, and he was quite willing that this should be the case. He would, however, ask me whether there was any connection between the suggestion brought to him by Prince Hohenlohe and the proposal made by Great Britain to the neutral Powers.

I said that the English proposal did not appear to refer to the past outbreak at Canton, but to the contingency (I hoped a very improbable one) of war between France and China; and I added that I conceived that it had been made in general terms, and that it did not contain any suggestions as to the command or other details.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) LYONS.

The Russian Correspondence was:—
SIR E. THORNTON TO EARL GRANVILLE.—
(Received by telegraph, December 13.)
St. Petersburg, 13th December, 1883.

MY LORD.—On the receipt of your Lordship's telegram of the 5th instant, I called upon M. Vlangaly and submitted to him, confidentially, the proposal made by Her Majesty's Government that instructions should be sent to the Russian naval Commander in the China seas to concert with the Commanders of the British and other neutral ships of war for the protection of neutral subjects.

I also informed his Excellency that the Governments of Germany and of the United States had agreed to instruct their Admirals in this sense.

M. Vlangaly replied that he would consult with the Navy Department upon the subject, and would take the orders of His Imperial Majesty. He, at the same time, expressed his opinion that the naval Commanders would have to exercise great caution in approaching Chinese ports with a view to affording protection to foreigners residing there; for he did not doubt that if war were declared, and even in anticipation of its declaration, torpedoes would be laid down by the Chinese authorities. He pointed out, also, that Canton could only be approached by vessels of light draught.

I called again upon his Excellency on the 12th inst., when he informed me that he had not yet had an opportunity of taking the Emperor's orders; and again yesterday, but still he said that he was not able to give me an answer; inquiries were, however, being made as to the course which had been pursued on previous similar occasions, and particularly last year at Alexandria, but that he would soon send me an answer.

I conjecture, however, that the Imperial Government intend to assent to your Lordship's proposal, because M. Vlangaly observed, in the course of conversation, that it might be well to establish it as a principle, that when there were disturbances in Eastern countries like China, involving danger to foreigners, it should be a matter of course that foreign ships of war should combine for their protection, whether the vessels belonged to the nation of those who were exposed to danger or not.

I replied that the oftener the instances of such concert were repeated the more likely it would be that it would become an established custom; and I trusted that if it should be needed this would be one of those instances.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) EDWD. THORNTON.

M. VLANGALY TO SIR E. THORNTON.

(Translation.)

St. Petersburg, Dec. 1st (13), 1883.

MY DEAR SIR EDWARD.—I hasten to inform you that my Government gives its adhesion to the proposal of Lord Granville, within the limits of such an arrangement as was made in the waters of Egypt.

Your, &c.
(Signed) A. VLANGALY.

Spain, Portugal and Japan acceded to the English suggestions.

PRESENTATION OF AN ADDRESS TO THE HON.
F. B. JOHNSON.

A meeting of gentlemen representing various communities in this Colony was held at the City Hall yesterday morning (18th), for the purpose of presenting an address in recognition of his public services here to the Hon. F. B. Johnson, who leaves this Colony to-day (19th) by the P. and O. Co.'s steamer *Malwa*. There was a large attendance, amongst those present being the Very Rev. Bishop Burdon, the Chief Justice, Hon. Sir George Phillippo, Mr. Justice Russell, Hon. W. H. Marsh, Hon. J. M. Price, Hon. Dr. Stewart, Hon. A. Lister, Hon. P. Ryrie, Hon. T. Jackson, Hon. F. D. Sassoon, &c.

The Hon. P. Ryrie presented the address. He said—Mr. Johnson, the duty has been entrusted to me of presenting to you this address. I feel in doing so that the terms used in it with regard to your services are well merited; and the regret which it expresses at your leaving the Colony is, I am sure, most sincere. (Applause.) I have had, as many of those present here are aware, the pleasure of your acquaintance and friendship, I may say, for over thirty years. We first met in Canton in October, 1851, we have been cordial friends ever since, and I hope we may continue so (Loud applause). I think that when the signatures on the address I have here are looked over—and there are a great many more who are anxious to sign, but have not yet had an opportunity of doing so—anyone must be convinced that the influence which you have obtained in this Colony and the good you have done is acknowledged by all. It is signed by every class and every representative of the European society of this Colony. With these remarks I have very great pleasure in presenting you the address. (Applause)

Mr. RYRIE then read the following address:—

Hongkong, 18th March, 1884.

To the Hon. FRANCIS BULKELEY JOHNSON,
Member of the Hongkong Legislative
Council, &c., &c., &c.

Dear Sir,—On the occasion of your departure from this Colony, in which, and in China, you have spent many years of your life, we think that we would fail in our duty if we did not place on record the appreciation of this community in regard to the public services you have rendered in your place in Council.

Notwithstanding the enormous interests you have had charge of as representing the large mercantile firm of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., you have managed to devote much time and energy to questions connected with the trade and Government of this Colony. You have served on nearly all the important commissions of inquiry relating to matters connected with the public service, and we know that your business capacity, long experience of China and the Chinese, your zeal and energy, have been highly appreciated both by the Government and the general community.

Your absence from the Legislative Chamber will be much noticed, for your ready grasp of all measures brought before the Council, your fluency and skill in debate, your clearness in statement, added considerable life and interest to proceedings which are often necessarily monotonous and dull.

Your liberal patronage of all local amusements; your genial hospitality, extended not only to residents in the Colony but to its frequent visitors, have been in keeping with your place as a leading personage in the Colony, and it is with no ordinary feelings of regret that we find ourselves about to bid you farewell. In doing so we beg you to accept our most cordial good wishes for your good health, and we sincerely hope and believe that you will attain complete success in whatever sphere you may elect for the future employment of your energy and abilities.

We are, dear Sir, with great respect, yours faithfully.

The Hon. F. B. JOHNSON.—Mr. Ryrie and gentlemen, it would be great affliction on my part if I were to say that I have not felt profoundly gratified while I have listened to the kind expressions which have been used towards myself by my old friend Mr. Ryrie, and to those which are contained in the address which he has just read, and which has been signed by my fellow residents in this Colony, for the expression of whose regard I cannot do otherwise than feel the greatest possible respect. One of the greatest encouragements which can be offered to any one who has public duties to perform, however humble they may be, is the feeling that what he does, or what he endeavours to do, meets the approval of his fellow citizens; and it will be a source of lasting and lively satisfaction to myself to have heard, Mr. Ryrie, from your lips to-day, that the course I have endeavoured to pursue in the Legislative Council has to some extent merited that approval. (Loud applause.) I have often said in the adjoining room, when we have met in the Chamber of Commerce to consider public questions, that though it is not given to any individual among us to do much, collectively and unitedly we are all-powerful, and I perhaps may venture to say our representatives in the Council or the Chamber of Commerce of this community have it in their power to pass any necessary measure of progress for this Colony which they set themselves to carry through heartily and perseveringly. (Applause.) I venture also to say that there is very much to be done in this Colony, and that there is now an opportunity to do it under the administration of our present wise, experienced, and even-handed Governor, supported by a Council which has been, under his influence, invested with a measure of popular representation, and

newspapers that Great Britain had come to an agreement with other Powers relative to the affairs of China. He added that he should be very much obliged if I would tell him frankly and confidentially what was the purport of this agreement.

I answered that Her Majesty's Government had simply proposed to all the neutral Powers having ships of war on the China Station to concert for the protection neutrals, if (which God forbid) war should unhappily break out between China and France.

VISCOUNT LYONS TO EARL GRANVILLE.—

(Received 14th December.)

Paris, 13th December, 1883.

MY LORD.—M. Jules Ferry said to me yesterday that it appeared that some understanding, with a view to joint action on the part of their naval forces in China, had been proposed by Great Britain to other Powers. Could I, he asked, give him any definite information on the subject.

I answered that Her Majesty's Government had in fact proposed to all the neutral Powers, who had men-of-war on the China Station, to concert for the protection of neutrals if war should unfortunately break out between France and China.

M. Jules Ferry went on to say that some little time ago Prince Hohenlohe, the German Ambassador, had come to him with a suggestion from Germany, that in consequence of the then recent outbreak at Canton the several Powers, France included, should send gunboats to that place for the protection of their subjects, and should agree that the command of the united force should be taken by the officer of highest rank, to whatever nation he might belong. M. Jules Ferry had, he told me, agreed to the suggestion. The command would, he supposed, devolve upon Great Britain, and he was quite willing that this should be the case. He would, however, ask me whether there was any connection between the suggestion brought to him by Prince Hohenlohe and the proposal made by Great Britain to the neutral Powers.

I said that the English proposal did not appear to refer to the past outbreak at Canton, but to the contingency (I hoped a very improbable one) of war between France and China; and I added that I conceived that it had been made in general terms, and that it did not contain any suggestions as to the command or other details.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) LYONS.

The Russian Correspondence was:—
SIR E. THORNTON TO EARL GRANVILLE.—
(Received by telegraph, December 13.)
St. Petersburg, 13th December, 1883.

MY LORD.—On the receipt of your Lordship's telegram of the 5th instant, I called upon M. Vlangaly and submitted to him, confidentially, the proposal made by Her Majesty's Government that instructions should be sent to the Russian naval Commander in the China seas to concert with the Commanders of the British and other neutral ships of war for the protection of neutral subjects.

I also informed his Excellency that the Governments of Germany and of the United States had agreed to instruct their Admirals in this sense.

M. Vlangaly replied that he would consult with the Navy Department upon the subject, and would take the orders of His Imperial Majesty. He, at the same time, expressed his opinion that the naval Commanders would have to exercise great caution in approaching Chinese ports with a view to affording protection to foreigners residing there; for he did not doubt that if war were declared, and even in anticipation of its declaration, torpedoes would be laid down by the Chinese authorities. He pointed out, also, that Canton could only be approached by vessels of light draught.

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THE CHINESE SABAH LAND COMPANY.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of this Company was held on the 20th inst., at the office of Messrs. Myburgh and Dowdall. Mr. E. Major (Chairman) presided, and there were also present Messrs. John Morris, J. Daeth, Ching Lien Saen and Wang Tso Chin (Directors), J. L. Hammond, E. P. Lalaca, J. M. Young, Pinckvoss, and several Chinese shareholders, representing altogether over one thousand shares.

The Secretary having read the notice calling the meeting,

The minutes of the last meeting of shareholders were read and confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN said—Well gentlemen, you have the report for the first year before you, and I suppose you have made yourselves acquainted with its contents. There is no necessity for me to read it, and we will therefore take it as read. You will see by this report that up to the end of October we did very little. We thought it better to make a few experimental trials, and we made this as economically as we could. Our agent used the time as far as he could in instructing himself about what was done elsewhere, and also in looking round for good men to employ when we should decide upon what should be done. In October we decided to begin by planting tobacco. The reason we chose tobacco was that it gives its return within a year's time, while cocoa, Liberian coffee, and hemp, although experts have said the place is very well adapted for them, would not show a return for four or five years; and the directors thought it would be inexpedient in the interest of the shareholders to wait so long. Our tobacco planter reports that he thinks there is every reason to expect as good growths as in Sumatra; the soil is equally good, and the climate, taking the rainfall, is also similar. A fair crop in Sumatra means a profit of forty or sixty per cent., and I think we have every reason to hope that we shall do as well in Borneo. In some respects we are more advantageously situated than they are in Sumatra; we can build drying sheds for about half the cost, and our ground is more accessible than the ground in Sumatra, as we have no land journeys to perform; all our land being alongside rivers. As regards sugar—that is the next best crop to give quick returns. We have planted sugar; but it takes from ten months to a year before it becomes ripe. From what experts have said, we have reason to believe that we shall get about 2½ tons an acre, which would give a good profit. But we shall wait till it has grown and then get a proper report on it. You will see by the report that the selections of land are fixed. I went down to Sandakan, and some sites were chosen for selection; but we found that one or two were rather too sandy to work well, and we thought we would increase the amount of land on those rivers where we found the soil better. I think we have obtained the first choice of land in the neighbourhood of Sandakan, and since we got our land, Sandakan has become the capital. I have no doubt that the value of our purchases, which cannot be repeated by any purchaser of land there, will be proved in the future. We have also, as you will see, decided to go in for cutting wood. Before we commenced that business we had to look round for an experienced foreigner who knew the kinds of wood to get, and what markets to send to. We have had specimens of the wood sent up to Shanghai, and they have been pronounced to be very valuable woods, especially for piles, lasting under water perhaps for hundreds of years. There is a prospect of making a fair amount of money in this way, although of course it depends on the state of the market. In the accounts there is an item of Tls. 19,255 due by Tsau Tso Chun which requires to be explained. He was one of our directors, and he applied

for one thousand shares and paid the bargain money, Tls. 2.50 each share as per custom. We had great difficulty in getting the money from him; we wrote to him several official letters, and he paid another Tls. 2.50 per share. Eventually he fully paid up a hundred shares, but we could not get any more from him. Then the market went down, and we could not very well sell the shares, and we were rather got. We have got something like Tls. 5,000 from him for the 900 shares which he has not fully paid up, and it will be a question whether the directors shall give him notice that this will be forfeited. In that case the number of shares in the Company will be reduced, and we shall be to a certain extent gainers by about Tls. 5,000. Then it will be seen that there are a hundred and fifty shares unallotted. That was owing to an accident. We understood that one of our Chinese directors wanted two hundred shares. He was sick at the time, and when he got well we found he only wanted fifty shares. That reduces the available capital of the Company; but I do not think there is any help for it. The present policy of the Directors is to keep the working of the Company, if possible, within the limits of its capital. We hope to be able to show the shareholders some planting which will make a fair profit, sufficient even to divide, before we make any call. That is all I have to say about the report. If any gentleman has any remarks about it, we shall be glad to hear them, or to answer any questions.

Some discussion took place with regard to the failure of Tsau Tso Chun to pay up his shares.

Mr. LALACA moved—

That the shares allotted to Mr. Tsau Tso Chun be forfeited in accordance with the Deed of Settlement if the balance due by him be not paid within two months from this date.

It was stated that notice had already been given to Mr. Tsau Tso Chun that his shares would be forfeited if the balance were not paid, and it was unnecessary to pass any resolution. The motion was accordingly withdrawn.

Mr. LALACA asked for an explanation of the surveying account.

The CHAIRMAN said it was necessary to have the land surveyed. The cost was from twenty to thirty cents an acre.

The CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. DAETH seconded the motion, and it was adopted.

Mr. LALACA proposed:—

That the directors to serve until the next annual meeting be Messrs. Ernest Major, Ching Lien Saen, Yan Chiun Chi, Wang Tso Chin, J. Daeth and John Morris.

Mr. YOUNG seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, moved by Mr. Lalaca.

REPORT.

The Directors submit to the Shareholders a Statement of Accounts for the opening year ending the 31st December, 1883.

In view of the unproved capabilities for agriculture of British North Borneo the Directors deemed it expedient to act with caution at first starting. The operations of the Company from April to October were, therefore, confined to experimental planting of Sugar Cane, Tobacco, Liberian Coffee, Cocoa, and Manila Hemp, and also to the final selections and surveys of the Company's land.

The frontage land of twelve rivers running into the Bay of Sandakan was originally secured as a basis for selection, but a careful comparison of the soils and lay of land has led to some modification. The final selections of the Company stand as follows:—

On the Saboaga River	4,000 acres; Survey completed.
Domondong	4,000 " "
Suanlamber	4,000 " "
Bodo	10,000 " Survey in progress.
Seokong	10,000 " "
Segalood	8,000 " Survey to follow.

The Estates opened are—

Saboaga River, on which Liberian Coffee, Cocoon, Manila Hemp, &c., have been planted. This estate, besides having two water approaches, is within two hours walking distance of Sandakan, and is being laid out with the object of subletting in small farms to Chinese pepper planters.

Suanlamber River.—Where the trial planting of Sugar Cane is being made, and where 100 acres for Tobacco are being cleared.

Domondong River.—An experimental planting of a few acres of Tobacco was commenced, but owing to the mismanagement on the part of the planter (who is no longer in the Company's employ) the transplanting was effected too late in the season to be successful.

In March last the Directors engaged the services of Mr. J. Morrison, formerly of the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, to be the Company's Agent in Sandakan.

In October and November last the Chairman, Mr. Ernest Major, made a second visit to North Borneo, and, in conjunction with the Agent, decided upon a plan of action for the forthcoming year on a scale sufficiently large to be remunerative, as follows:—

- 1st.—To plant 100 acres Tobacco;
- 2nd.—To develop the Timber Trade;
- 3rd.—To extend the Suanlamber Sugar Cane sufficiently to afford a nursery capable of transplanting to the extent of 2/400 acres, if deemed advisable, in June and July next;
- 4th.—To continue extending the Saboaga Estate.

The services of Mr. Gibson, an experienced tobacco planter from Deli, Sumatra, have been engaged, and he has recently contracted with and despatched coolies from Singapore to Sandakan. He reports on the soil of the Suanlamber as follows:—"As compared with our Sumatra soil, I should call it very fair; and, with the seasons which we get there, I should look for good results. I have compared the rainfalls of Sumatra and this country and find them very equal."

The services, also, of Mr. MacLean, who has had large experience in the Timber Trade, have been engaged to superintend wood-felling and shipping, and he is now busily employed with a gang of coolies. Two Sailing Ships have been despatched for Sandakan to load Timber for Hongkong or Shanghai as ordered by the Agent.

Mr. J. Daeth and Mr. Wing Tso Chin have been appointed to fill the vacancies in the Board of Directors caused by the retirement of Mr. C. Lucas and the absence of Mr. Tsau Tso Chun from Shanghai.

The Directors resign office in accordance with the Deed of Settlement, and offer themselves for re-election.

(Signed) ERNEST MAJOR,
Chairman.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Tls.
Advertising and Printing	407.36
Legal Fees	529.35
Expenses selecting land at Sandakan and Chinese Director's expenses there	775.18
Wages, Elopura, to 31st March, 1883	205.37
Agent's Fee, founding Company	500.00
Directors' Fees to 31st December, 1883	640.00
Agents' Commission	1,200.00
Sundry	60.03
General Charges, Elopura, to 31st December, 1883	3,934.39
Exchange	77.07
Sundries, Agents' Account	255.72
	Tls. 8,585.08
Cr.	
Interest Account	2,895.47
Balance	5,689.61
	Tls. 8,585.08

BALANCE SHEET.		
Liabilities.		Tls.
4,000 shares	100,000.00	
Myburgh and Dowdall	514.83	
	Tls. 100,514.83	
Assets.		
Shares—		
150 shares unallotted	3,750.00	
Shareholders, Borneo	125.00	
Tea Too Chiu	19,255.62	
	Tls. 23,130.62	
Cash—		
Agra Bank, Limited	29,200.39	
General Agents	1,400.51	
Agent, Elopura	7,121.54	
Treasury	66.75	
	Tls. 37,939.19	
Property—		
Land Account	14,933.14	
Domondong Estate	4,893.86	
Sabooga	2,604.02	
Suanlamber	745.79	
Marine Lot, Kindat	255.80	
„ Elopura	928.56	
Suburban Lot	295.63	
Survey Account	5,931.41	
Timber	124.35	
Tobacco	391.62	
	Tls. 30,500.11	
Plant—		
Steam felling machinery	1,818.84	
Cargo Boats, etc.	419.02	
Office Buildings, Furniture, etc.	956.96	
	Tls. 3,254.82	
Profit and Loss Account	5,689.61	
	Tls. 10,514.35	

E. & O. E.
Shanghai, 13th March, 1884.

I hereby certify that I have examined the foregoing Accounts, comparing them with the Books and various Vouchers of the Company, and that I have found them all in order.

(Signed)

Monro & Co.,
General Agents.
H. J. Limby,
Auditor.

Reports.

THE STRAITS INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following are the principal paragraphs in the Report:—

Underwriting was commenced at Head Office on the 1st October last, and the business shown on the subjoined Accounts has been mainly acquired thereat. Considerable delay necessarily occurred in starting at the Agencies, but the large majority of those already opened are now in full working. Agents at numerous ports and places have yet to be appointed.

The net premium earned from the 1st October to the 31st December 1883 amounts (less Return and Reinsurance Premium) to \$31,764.50. The interest earned amounts \$4,634.44. Payments for claims and losses amount to \$31.60, and your Directors are glad to state that, beyond a few claims for average of minor importance, they have nothing to report under this heading. The balance (carried forward) of the Working Account on the 31st December, 1883, is \$24,587.46, out of which sum it is proposed to pay three months' interest from 1st October on the share capital subscribed at that date—at the rate of 10% per annum. Members whose calls on allotment were paid subsequent to the 1st October will receive interest from the dates of their several payments to the 31st December. The sum total of this interest is \$7,033.79. Your Directors propose that the first "year" of the Company's business shall embrace the term from the 1st October, 1883, to the 31st December, 1884. This will, doubtless, meet your approval. It will be observed that on the 31st December, 3,470 shares remained unallotted. The whole of these might have since been readily placed, but your Directors find that, as fresh Agencies are opened, applications for shares come forward from business people who would prove highly desirable members of the Company. Applications are likewise coming in from local firms who have hitherto held aloof from taking an interest in the office, and a share of whose business would be especially welcome. Your Directors feel, therefore, that the possession of unplaced shares is likely to be of considerable benefit to the Company. At date the unappropriated shares number 1,132. Of these many are promised.

LUZON SUGAR REFINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the Shareholders at the annual meeting, to be held on Friday next:—

The general agents have now to submit to the shareholders their report upon the working of the business of the Refinery for the past year and a statement of accounts to 31st December, 1883.

At the extraordinary general meetings of shareholders held on the 16th May and 18th June last, the general agents stated that owing to the change in the export trade which had occurred since the Refinery had been established new processes had to be adopted, and that although during the month of May an equilibrium between expenditure and income had been attained, the working for the first five months of the year had shown a severe loss. Since that time the management in Manila has been mainly occupied in testing not only suitable qualities of raw sugar, but in working up the descriptions of refined calculated to meet the fluctuating demand. These experiments have been costly, but they have proved in the main successful, and the net result of the working for the seven months from 1st June to 31st December, after providing for all expenses, interest and commission, has shown a profit of \$16,000. This result would have been better but for an unusually dry season, entailing heavy expenses for an adequate water supply and necessitating a diminished output.

PROFIT AND LOSS.

The working account for the year shows a net balance of profit of\$23,693.58 which, with the amount brought forward from last year 4,090.65

makes a total to be dealt with of \$27,784.23, and after deducting interest, Consulting Committee's Remuneration, General Agents, and Manila Agents' commissions, auditors' fees, leaves a balance of \$12,030.70, which the General Agents' and Consulting Committee recommend be carried forward to a new account to be placed against the losses incurred by the typhoon in 1882, and preliminary expenses standing to the debit of the Company on the balance sheet. The Agents in Manila advise that the net profit realized in January and February last was \$14,600.

There is an excellent demand for the company's production of refined sugars which, owing to the scarcity of water, the works have not been able wholly to supply. The application made in May last to the Spanish Government for permission to divert a stream of water to the refinery, owing to the number of official forms through which such an application has to pass, has only within the last few days been accorded to. Pending formal permission, however, the General Agents did not deem it prudent to commence the construction of the charcoal works which are to be set up in pursuance of the policy laid down at the meeting in June last, and loss of time occasioned by the protracted delay which has occurred has been most disappointing and vexatious. The operations for the supply of water have been commenced, and the extension of the works will now be proceeded with at once.

The prospects of the Company's business, when the full water-supply has been obtained and the charcoal method of refining has been added to the works, are excellent, and, in the meantime, the General Agents feel confident that a fair profit will be shown during the present year by the system already in operation.

PROPERTY ACCOUNT.

The balance of \$32,815.02 standing at debit of construction account has been transferred to property account. A new account called "Extension Account" has been opened in connection with the rearrangement of the works, which will be adjusted on completion of the improvements contemplated.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

Mr. Sassoon and Mr. Gillies offer themselves for re-election, and Mr. Reiners having left the colony a seat at the Board remains at the disposal of the shareholders to be filled at the ensuing meeting.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited in Manila by Mr. G. H. Townsend, and here by Mr. Thomas Arnold. It has been arranged that for the future they shall be audited here, and Messrs. G. R. Johnston and Thomas Arnold are recommended for election.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Agents.

Hongkong, 14th, March, 1884.

Amusements.

THE "ENTERPRISE" MASTODON MINSTRELS.

Following closely upon the entertainment given by another American naval troupe of amateur negro minstrels, the performance given on Saturday by the Enterprise Mastodons was not so well attended as it probably would have been at a more favourable time. Several unoccupied seats were, however, marked as "engaged," and we hope to hear that there is a fair margin of profit to hand over to the Ladies' Benevolent Society, whose excellent work in aiding those in distress is too well-known to need any comment from us. The troupe was smaller than that of the Richmond, but the entertainment had evidently been well rehearsed; some of the performers sing very well, and many of the dances were executed with extraordinary skill, and in a manner which showed that the dancers had most carefully drilled themselves. The performance began in the usual way with a programme of ballads, interspersed with exchanges of jokes between the middle and end men. Some of the songs were well sung, and all of them sufficiently entertaining; but this part of the evening's amusement was rendered somewhat wearisome by a series, which threatened to be interminable, of the feeblest comicalities, pronounced and answered by the tambos and bones. The riddles were of the kind that might be cut by the score out of the back pages of old copies of the *Family Herald*, and we should imagine that the number of people who derive much amusement or instruction from hearing that the letter *a* is like twelve o'clock because it comes in the middle of "day," or that the letter *o* is like a pony because *g* makes it go, must be rather small. After a selection of music by the amateur band of the Enterprise, who played very well throughout the performance and added much to its enjoyment, the second part opened with an amusing skit called "The Parade of the Skidmore Guards," in which one or two happy hits at our local volunteer force were introduced. A series of songs and dances, eccentric and graceful, succeeded, some of the dances being executed, as we have said, with remarkable skill and effect, the performers in nearly every case receiving a recall. A laughable sketch called "Paris after the Bombardment" was then performed, one of the actors being capitally made up as a lady; and the entertainment concluded with a plantation dance and chorus entitled "Mass's Birthday Party." Mr. Roche is especially deserving of praise for the manner in which he contributed to the evening's amusement, his dancing, singing, and acting, being alike good; and he was ably assisted by many other performers. A great deal of care had evidently been expended upon the entertainment, and on the whole it justified the trouble which had been bestowed upon it and pleased the audience; but it would have been decidedly improved by a little compression. The dances, good as they were, were kept up a little too long.

and the opening portion of the programme might have been curtailed by the omission of the conundrums, with or without the substitution of a few good jokes. With a little compression the performance would have been all that could be expected, and even as it was the audience derived much amusement from it.

PROFESSOR AND MRS. BALDWIN AT
THE LYCEUM.

A very amusing and startling entertainment was given at the Lyceum Theatre on Monday evening by Professor Baldwin, aided by Mrs. Baldwin and Mr. Lingard. The Professor is a most entertaining talker, and he kept his audience in a good humour with a lively and rattling monologue during almost the entire performance. After inviting on to the platform a committee of residents most of whom were well-known to nearly all the audience, and who, of course, were above suspicion of collusion, he performed surprising tricks with such simple accessories as a jug of water and a piece of newspaper. Then, bound hand and foot in a small cabinet, together with Mr. Lingard, he produced a number of "spiritualistic" manifestations with wonderful speed and dexterity. One of the most surprising of the Professor's feats was performed with a pair of handcuffs—not conjuror's property handcuffs, but a pair of genuine bracelets lent for the occasion by Mr. Inspector Mack, of the Detective Department. It was obviously impossible for any man to slip the cuffs off without breaking his wrists, and Mr. Baldwin frankly confessed his inability to perform such a feat. Nevertheless, after having his hands securely fastened in the "darbies," and having handed the key to a member of the Inspecting Committee, Professor Baldwin was shut up in his cabinet, and in the space of a few seconds he had not only freed his hands but had locked the cuffs one within the other, while suspended from one hung a large jug and from the other a tambourine. Mrs. Baldwin in a like mysterious manner disengaged herself from a tight-fitting pilory in which she was rather ungallantly fastened down with a sealed padlock by her husband. The Professor gave an illustrated explanation of the manner in which the hand-cuff trick was performed; but we doubt whether many of the audience were much wiser after the explanation than before. The most interesting part of the entertainment was, however, a clairvoyant séance by Mrs. Baldwin, in which, while apparently thrown into a mesmeric trance, she read and answered questions written and at once pocketed by members of the audience, as well as questions only thought of and never transferred to paper. Recent murders, fires and robberies in the Settlement, as well as some dating years back, were described with tolerable accuracy by Mrs. Baldwin, and their hitherto unknown causes explained. Of the explanations we are of course unable to guarantee the accuracy; but some members of the audience who appeared to be deeply impressed will doubtless keep their eyes and ears open during the coming months and note how many of the fair clairvoyant's prognostications are realised. We hope, however, that dwellers in the suburbs will not be seriously alarmed to learn that the perpetrators of the horrible outrage at Lo-ka-wei Hotel have already planned a new crime of a similar nature. But whatever incredulity may be felt by some of our readers on the point, Professor Baldwin has apparently the most perfect faith in his wife's powers as a seer, for he repeatedly offered to stake a small fortune on the correctness of each and all of her prognostications. In addition to these matters of public knowledge, several questions were propounded on private subjects; in some cases answers were given, and in

others it was intimated that the replies were of too personal a nature to be stated in a public building, and the querists were invited to attend a private séance. Two or three members of the audience were very anxious to ascertain the first-prize number in the next drawing of the Manila Lottery, and a definite answer was given to their question. The number is, however, already sold, and we shall therefore not disappoint our readers by reporting Mrs. Baldwin's reply. In one instance, in which we can guarantee that there was no collusion between the enquirer and the Professor and his lady, facts which it seemed almost impossible could have come to the clairvoyant's knowledge were correctly stated, and in other cases some remarkable results were obtained. In one case the actual date, in the near future, of the death of an enquirer was stated; but either from fear or from some other motive which may suggest itself to the minds of our readers the doomed individual, when called upon by the Professor to announce himself, remained silent. The entertainment concluded with "The Spirit Bride's Reception," in which several ghosts were introduced to the audience; and if these last manifestations were on the whole rather more amusing than awe-inspiring the audience nevertheless left well pleased with their night's amusement. A second entertainment is to be given this evening, when the programme will be entirely new, and some startling acts are to be performed.

Correspondence.

THE TEA TRADE.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—I am very pleased to find you have opened your columns to the discussion of the appointment of the Tea Arbitrator, and perhaps you will find space for a few suggestions which I venture to send you on this subject.

The trouble in the present case seems to have arisen from the anomalous position held by the Chamber of Commerce with regard to the trade in general. I mean, how far the dictum of the one is binding on the other. The Tea Guild is in no way to blame; they chose the man they liked and sent in their nomination to what they naturally considered head-quarters, viz. the Chamber of Commerce, for approval. Before accepting the offer of the Tea Guild, the gentleman who was selected should have considered, I think, the curious position he was putting himself in; how does he expect to serve his two masters, his constituents at home, and the teamen out here? Are not their interests diametrically opposed? He has told the teamen, I hear, that he intends to do a larger business than ever at Hankow this season; if this is so, the complication becomes greater.

It is desirable that the post of arbitrator should be held, if possible, by one who, though having a perfect knowledge of the article and the customs of the trade here, has no personal interest (direct or indirect) in tea, and I venture to think a competent man could be found to do the work both at this and Hankow, for the sum of Tls. 3,000 to Tls. 3,500 per annum.

In advocating a tax to be levied on green teas alone, both you and "Merchant" appear to have overlooked one fact. The agitation for an arbitrator was begun by the sellers of black teas at Hankow, who felt they had a grievance, and it is only natural that if they get any advantage through the arbitrator, they should also pay his expenses. Buyers have got to look after their own interests, and would prefer, I dare say, that there was no arbitrator at all.

It is to be hoped that before long one system of weighing will be adopted both

here and at Hankow for black teas and green teas alike, and I believe that in the case of green teas the gain in tael price would amply compensate the seller for any slight loss in weight as compared with the present system of weighing, which I am told is somewhat irregular. You cannot expect green teas to be taxed and black teas let go free; such a proposal is untenable,—each class should pay its proportion. Were the Tea Guilds to take up the matter, my suggestion to them would be to tax all teas arriving both at this and Hankow. I estimate the total arrivals for the season at 1,750,000 half-chests viz. 1,350,000 half-chests black and 400,000 green; thus a very slight tax on every 100 half-chests would easily raise the required amount, and at the same time scarcely be felt by the seller.

Apologising for the length of this letter,

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

TEA-TASTER.

19th March.

LI HUNG-CHANG AND THE WANGS.
To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—With all respect to your esteemed Correspondent who styles himself "One Who Knows," permit me to remark that the serious errors he charges the informant to have committed, through whom the contents of your leader were derived, are not errors at all.

A review of Li's life will prove the assertion of your Correspondent that Li had been Fu-t'ai of Kiangsu about two years before Soochow was recovered, to be incorrect. Li took his Hanlin degree after thirty years of age, and was Fu-t'ai of Soochow, that is of Kiangsu, when about forty-one or two years old; consequently there was a difference of only eight or nine years between his graduation into Hanlinship and his appointment to the Governorship of a province. Such a rapid rise for a man in civil life would be unparalleled in the history of present dynasty. Take for example the present Fu-t'ai of Shansi, Chang Chih-tung. He was for over ten years in the Hanlin College and the Chamber of Censors, and would never have received his promotion to so prominent a position but for his constant memorials laying before the Throne the deficiencies in the Boards and the Taung-li Yamén, and his able and never-to-be-forgotten pamphlet on the Russo-China question. His presence in Peking became a source of annoyance and danger, and forthwith a responsible but distant post was conferred on him as the only safe way to let rid of him. But Li had never entered the Hanlin College, and much less was a Censor; and paramount to both these disadvantages he was poor and without influence. To raise a Hanlin to a Governor without his having passed the examinations at Hanlin College or distinguishing himself as a Censor unassisted by money, influence, or military achievements, cannot for a moment be thought of, and would indeed seem preposterous in the eyes of the Government. Upon what evidence your Correspondent upholds such an assertion is a wonder to me. Supposing, for the sake of argument, Li had been a Fu-t'ai of Kiangsu, the seat of which office was in Soochow, about two years before Soochow was recovered; then it is evident that Li must have lost the city, and was commissioned with an army to retake it. Now if your Correspondent had any knowledge of the Chinese official mode of procedure in case of any officer allowing an enemy to capture a city, not to say a provincial capital, he would not entertain the idea that he does. The Chinese consider that the man who cannot defend himself behind a wall must be unfit to beat an enemy shielded by a wall. Instant death or disgrace awaits any com-

mandant who loses a post or flies before the foe.

Li, on obtaining this Hanlin degree, retired to his home in Ho Fei, and when the rebellion broke out joined Tseng Kuo-fan about the same time with Tso, as a documentary writer and military adviser. Tseng appreciated his abilities and talent, but was by no means jealous of him then or ever after. A dissension however arose between the various councillors under Tseng on military affairs, and Tseng, thinking it was more dangerous to face discord in his own tent than an army in the field, decided to separate the disputants by commissioning them with armies to different places. Tso accordingly journeyed to Kiangsi with some troops, and Li came to Kiangsu holding by no means the highest rank, being a Taotai Expectant, with 800 soldiers and volunteers gathered to his standard from his native province, and General Chen Hsiuh-chien

程學敏 (who ordered the beheading of the Taiping Wangs) as his lieutenant. Li worked with his brains, General Chen with his arms; Li did the planning, Chen the fighting; and most of Li's victories were due to the fiery impetuosity and dashing valour of his brave subordinate. Hence his unwillingness to displease the faithful servant. As to declaring it absurd that the tall and vigorous form of Li could be taken by the waist and thrust into the inner tent, your Correspondent shows his utter ignorance of Chinese military and civil life. A man educated in universities or colleges abroad who devotes himself partly to his studies, and partly to gymnastics, athletic exercises, outdoor sports, riding, shooting, sparring, fencing, and rowing, can well prove himself a match against the graduates of the naval and military schools or even a hardy veteran from the field. But a Chinese student, sitting in a cramped position for ten years or more poring over the Classics, be he six or nine feet in height, will not be able to stand for a moment against a man who has spent his whole life in lifting stones of one or two hundred catties in weight, stringing bows, flourishing large and cumbersome swords, thrusting spears, riding, leaping, and doing active service in war. Li was a scholar, and Chen a military man. The tall, powerful, but unpractised frame of Li, exhausted by long years of study, weighed but little against the sinewy form and iron arms of a trained athlete like Chen in a personal conflict.

It is true that Gordon had done no more than loyal service. But Gordon was master of himself. He could have fought in Kiangsi instead of Kiangsu had he elected to do so. Li had no control over him or those under his command, who were partly foreign and partly Chinese. Li appreciated his services and considered the assistance of the foreign general indispensable. But he dared not use Gordon as he used others, and Gordon was well aware of the fact. Had Li or the Chinese considered Gordon simply as a lieutenant, the former might easily have captured and delivered up the latter to the British authorities, or even put him to death on a charge of mutiny, when, revolver in hand was chasing and forcing Li to make a hasty flight. That the matter was quietly dropped, and no complaint made of it sufficiently shows that Li looked on Gordon as an equal and would not for the world have lost his services.

As to the charge of treachery, none of course can so well explain the matter as Li and Gordon themselves. Your Correspondent says that Gordon gave his word to spare the lives of the Wangs without authority. It could not have been possible that the Wangs surrendered to the foreign General only. They must have given themselves to both the Generals or to the Chinese Commander only. Li and Gordon knew the surrender of the Wangs to be conditional, for the Taipings could well fight on, and sell their lives more dearly, and a joint consent was given to spare them.

It is certain that Gordon with his vast experience and superior knowledge in military matters could not have failed to grasp the situation in which Li and his army were placed; and it is equally certain that the Wangs could not have been so foolish as to trust to the word of Gordon only and to think that he guaranteed a continuance of power, when before and during the siege they heard of Imperial proclamations resounding everywhere inviting any one who could capture Soochow to be the Fu-tai of that city and the province of Kiangsu. Experience and instinct alone would have kept the Wangs from swaggering into Li's presence and bearing themselves as if they were still lords of the city, as your Correspondent so graphically describes the scene. Gordon's rage was perfectly justifiable, and I conclude by saying that the version given you by your informant coincides exactly with the character of the great Chinese statesman who erred in being indecisive and not in being treacherous.

ONE WHO KNOWS BETTER.

17th March.

THE RACING SCANDAL IN HONGKONG.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Will you allow me to express a regret, shared I believe by all ex-Shanghai men now resident here, that the Shanghai Race Club cannot see its way to take notice of the behaviour of some of its members at the late Hongkong Race Meeting? A report of the enquiry by the Stewards of the Race Fund might surely be asked for, and their consideration for our friends in the north should not allow of the matter being dropped without an endeavour to atone in some measure for the disgrace brought on the Shanghai Race Club.

Your obediently,

LATE SHANGHAI.

Hongkong, 19th March 1884.

Law Reports.

IN THE U.S. COURT FOR THE CONSULAR DISTRICT OF SHANGHAI.

Shanghai, 25th March, 1884.

Before F. D. CHESHIRE, Esq., U.S. Vice-Consul-General in charge, Acting Judicially.

THOMAS HEENEY and ROSENBERG, seamen belonging to the U.S. corvette *Alert*, were charged with striking Sergeant McDonald on the head with a baton, and with rescuing prisoners from the custody of the Police.

Both defendants pleaded "not guilty." A. McDonald, Sergeant of Police, sworn, stated—At 7.15 p.m. on Sunday, I went to arrest three deserters from the *Enterprise*. I was accompanied by a constable. When we went into the "Prince of Wales" tavern on the Yang-king-pang to make the arrest, Heenev hit the constable with his fist. I caught hold of Heenev and drove him back. I only wanted the deserters from the *Enterprise*, but Rosenberg lifted a chair and threw it at me; it struck a pane of glass and went through the door outside. I then blew my whistle, and P. C. Plummer came to our assistance. Another constable came inside and caught hold of one of the deserters. Heenev then took my truncheon from me and dealt me a blow on the head beside the top of my ear. As blood flowed from the wound, I was sent to the doctor. Four men attempted to rescue the deserters, and broke tables, chairs and other articles of furniture and used them as weapon during the row.

A French policeman was next called. He stated that McDonald was struck by someone; he did not know by whom, There

was a row at the "Prince of Wales" tavern when the English police went to arrest the men. The defendants were drunk, and if their friends had not interfered there would have been no row.

HEENEV wanted to know who it was that struck him over the eye.

Sergeant McDONALD—I do not know. The defendant was foremost in the melee. Both men knew quite well what they were about. Another man, named Gallagher, went outside and got some stones, but he was prevented from throwing them.

W. F. PLUMMER, police constable, sworn, stated—On Sunday night I was on beat duty on the Yang-king-pang and I heard a police whistle blown. As I knew some of the officers were there to arrest deserters, I ran over to the "Prince of Wales" tavern. I saw Sergeants McDonald, Storey and Taylor there. They told me they had been assaulted. Sergeant McDonald said he was going in again to arrest the absentees. Four of us then went inside. The first man we met was Rosenberg. He asked if we wanted him and was told no, but that we wanted the deserters from the *Enterprise*. While McDonald was looking at a man lying on the ground, he was struck from behind with a truncheon. I saw Rosenberg make a blow at McDonald with a chair, though I cannot say who struck the sergeant with the truncheon. I was struck at the back of the head by a man named Gallagher. Heenev did not want us to take the deserters, and made a blow at police constable Lawrence, but I pushed him out of the house. I stayed there till more constables came, and then we heard that the men we were after had escaped.

ROSENBERG was then sworn. He stated—A police officer tried to arrest me in mistake for a man named Thompson. I said I was not the man. I received a blow on the cheek with a club. I did not pick up so much as a match box to defend myself with. I tried to stop things being broken. I had a little drink—only a few glasses—and I knew what I was doing. I was arrested.

McDONALD—I ordered Rosenberg to be arrested after he struck me with a chair. I did not mistake him for one of the deserters.

THOMAS HEENEV, sworn, stated—The trouble commenced owing to the Police making a mistake about Rosenberg. I said he should not be taken.

The Court—Was that any of your business?

HEENEV—Yes, Sir. He was in my company at the time.

The Court (to the police)—Did the defendants know what they were doing?

McDONALD—They did.

PLUMMER—Gallagher stood at the door with an open knife and threatened to spill blood if we attempted to take any of the *Enterprise* men. We could not mistake the men we wanted, owing to the rating on their arms.

N. GROWLOFF, sworn, after giving similar evidence, stated—I saw Rosenberg strike Sergeant McDonald with a chair. Gallagher drew a knife on one of us. I did not see Heenev strike anyone.

ROSENBERG—I was struck with a weapon, though I used none myself.

HEENEV—All I can remember of the affair is that at first one officer came in alone to arrest Rosenberg. He said "I want to take you." He was the man that struck me. I said Rosenberg did not belong to the *Enterprise*, but to the *Alert*. He then struck me without any provocation. I interfered because I knew the police had made a mistake. I was drunk at the time, but I knew what was going on. There was a regular melee. I was too much under the influence of liquor to know what I did; I used no weapon. If I strike a man while I am drunk, I do so with my fists, as I am capable of taking care of myself.

ROSENBERG—We were amusing ourselves when the police officer came in. He said I was wanted, and stepped up to collar me. Then my friends said I should not be taken. I said the officer could take me if he liked. The officers did not know whom they struck, and they hit at an old fireman who would not hurt anyone. I saw chairs and tables flying about, but I did not lift a weapon. It was a regular drunken row, though I knew what I was doing. The case was then adjourned for further evidence.

GALLAGHER and another were next charged with assaulting constables Plummer and Growloff, and with rescuing two prisoners at the "Prince of Wales" tavern. They pleaded not guilty.

After some evidence had been taken, the second man was released.

F. W. PLUMMER, sworn, stated—While we were trying to arrest absconees from the *Enterprise* on Sunday night, Gallagher got possession of a policeman's truncheon and made a blow at me with it. The blow caught me at the back of the neck, and my helmet saved my head. I was thrown out of the house. Gallagher then stood at the door with a knife in his hand and dared us to go inside. He said blood would be spilt if we attempted to arrest any to the *Enterprise* men, and that he belonged to Shanghai, and would fix some of them, as he expected to get five days' leave. Gallagher was the chief man who caused the disturbance. He was a good bit under the influence of liquor at the time, though he knew what he was doing.

N. GROWLOFF, sworn, stated—After we went out of the "Prince of Wales" tavern, Gallagher threatened to stab Lawrence. He had a knife in his hand, and I struck him to make him drop it. He then tried to throw the knife into the creek. He assisted in throwing the tables and chairs about.

GALLAGHER—Where did I get the knife from? I never carry a knife.

Witness—The knife you had in your hand was taken from the table at the "Prince of Wales." There is one knife missing from there. It was you who threw a table leg at us.

The Court was then adjourned till next morning for the production of further evidence.

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Paulah*, for Chefoo—Mr. F. A. Carl.

Per str. *Keelung*, for Newchwang—Mr. B. Russell.

Per str. *Tunsin*, for Ningpo—Mr. D. M. Henderson.

Per str. *Achilles*, for London—Rev. W. Muirhead. For Singapore—Mr. Colgan.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Thames*, from London—Mr. and Mrs. Towell and two children, Messrs. W. M. Anderson and Fraser, and Mrs. Brett's amah. From Venice—Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, and Mr. Broadbent. From Bombay—Major-General Cunliffe. From Colombo—Mr. Minnick. From Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin, Messrs. G. Lingard, Harland, Lacie, J. C. May and S. Marsh and native servant, Major Knollys and native servant.

Per str. *Ajaz*, from Hongkong—Commander and Mrs. Webb, and Mr. Carlisle.

Per str. *Keelung*, from Swatow—Mr. Lee Sick Song.

Per str. *Taku*, from Foochow—Mr. and Mrs. Swire, and Mr. Sinclair.

Per str. *Sin Nanzing*, from Tientsin—Mr. J. Parker.

Per str. *Nagoya Maru*, from Japan—Mr. and Mrs. Tei and servant, Dr. Lucy H. Hoag, Miss M. C. Robinson, Miss Spence, Messrs. T. B. Glover and servant, W. Lowes and W. Conrad.

Per str. *Wingsang*, from Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. A. M. da Silva and family, and Capt. Cass.

Per str. *Shanghai*, from Chinkiang—Dr. Gallick.

Per str. *Tunsin*, from Ningpo—Mr. Wilson.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, from Ningpo—Mr. E. Stevens (U.S. Consul), and Mr. F. J. Steyn.

Per str. *Kiangyu*, from Tungehow—Capt. A. M. Bisbee.

Per str. *Glenelg*, from London—Mrs. Clough, and Miss Lee.

LEAVING.

Per str. *Clyde*, for Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Bishop. For Fouang—Mr. G. S. Murray.

For Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. Burkill.

Miss Spence, Messrs. W. Lang, W. H. Macomber, H. Seruys, and Dr. J. Johnston.

For Venice—Mr. and Mrs. Seaman, Mrs. Yates and Miss A. C. Stafford.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer.		Thermometer.		Hygrometer.		Wind.		Rain-fall in inches previous 24 hours.
	8 A.M.	Attached Therm.	Max.	Min.	Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Force.	Direction.	
Mar. 20	30.07	48.0	53.0	39.0	47.5	40.0	2	S.E.	..
21	30.03	49.5	60.5	41.5	49.0	40.5	2	S.E.	..
22	30.06	48.0	65.0	47.0	47.5	40.5	14	N.N.E.	..
23	30.19	44.5	48.5	41.5	44.0	42.0	3	"	..
24	30.12	41.0	49.5	38.5	40.5	38.5	2	N.N.W.	..
25	30.11	47.5	55.5	42.5	47.0	45.0	2	S.E.	..
26	30.02	49.5	56.0	45.0	48.0	47.0	..	S.E.	..

EXPLANATION.

Initials:—b, blue sky; c, clouds; f, fog; h, hail; l, lightning; m, misty (hazy); o, overcast (dull); r, rain; s, snow; t, thunder; x, calm. Force from 1 to 21 estimated.

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Shanghai, 16th July, 1883

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FOR 1884.

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PRICE—\$0.75 each. Shanghai, 12th November, 1883.

NOTICE TO MARINERS, No. 184.

CHINA SEA.

FOOCHOW DISTRICT.

North Breakers Buoy.

NOTICE is hereby given that a black conical buoy, surmounted by a black, diamond-shaped cage, has been moored in 10 feet at low water spring tides, to mark the North Breakers Bank, on the south-eastern side of the North Channel over the Outer Bar at the entrance to the River Min.

From the buoy:—Sharp Peak bears N. 81° 30' W. magnetic. Round Island, S. 62° 00' W.

By order of the Inspector General of Customs, A. M. BISBEE,

Coast Inspector. Imperial Maritime Customs, Coast Inspector's Office, Shanghai, 22nd Feb., 1884.

OPIUM

RETURN FOR THE WEEK ENDING 15TH MARCH, 1884.

IMPORTED	MALWA		PATNA.		BENARES.		PERSIAN.	
	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.
Imported and stored on board Receiving Vessels	1,167½	1,167.50	29	34.80	29	34.80	..	..
Returned from shore on board R. Vessels	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Imported and transhipped for re-exportation without being stored on board	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Receiving Vessels or landed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Landed direct	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	1,167½	1,167.50	29	34.80	29	34.80	..	..
Landed from Receiving Vessels and intended chiefly for Local consumption	38	38.00	121	145.20	82	98.40	1	1.00

RE-EXPORTED from board Receiving Vessels:—

Description.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Total.
	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght. Ch. Wg. Pls.
Malwa	383½ 333.50	69½ 69.50	23 23.00	66 66.00	12 12.00	44 44.00	..	142 142.00	..	..	13 13.00	703 703.00
Patna	12 14.40	..	..	14 16.80	..	..	..	3 3.60	..	..	..	29 34.80
Benares	7 8.40	..	..	..	..	..	..	21 24.00	..	..	..	27 32.40
Persian	2 2.40	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 1.00	..	..	..	3 3.00
Turkey	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	354½ 338.90	69½ 69.50	23 23.00	80 82.80	12 12.00	44 44.00	..	166 170.60	..	..	13 13.00	762 773.20

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 25th March, 1884.

THE French have had further success in Annam, and now Reuter informs us they will demand an indemnity of six millions sterling from the Chinese Government. That the Mandarin will oppose such a claim may be taken as a certainty. There is hardly any other course open for them, but they will gain nothing by resistance. "As a matter of fact, as far as we can see, they are now "between two stools," and must come to grief, unless "ancient custom" interpose on their behalf. But, even if the country recognises the claim, it is not very clear how it can be liquidated short of the cession of an equivalent in territory.

PIECE GOODS.—The ultra-active stage of this season's spring trade has terminated apparently with the final loading of the NEWCHWANG steamers which sailed hence on the 22nd inst. Since then comparative quietness has ruled here, business with the Outports being still prevented by the continuance of their financial difficulties, which are more likely to thicken than to lessen within the next two or three weeks. Importers, however, having with them the show at least of firmness in MANCHESTER, notwithstanding the arrangement of the Lancashire strikes, are professing firmness. Indeed, some holders of cotton goods have declined to lower their rates, whilst others have made progress at their last mail's currencies, and, in the case of the *American Sheetling*, for one thing, have even improved on them. The *Indian Head* and *Appleton Lion* of that item have been sold at £2.95 and £2.85 per piece, the latter "to arrive," and still higher rates are now spoken of.

Grey Shirtings.—8½-lbs.—For these the following quotations have ruled, viz: £1.32 for *Red Ship*, £1.34 for *Green Stag*, *Stork*, etc., £1.42½ for *Green Maggie*, £1.45 for *Red Rhinoceros* and *Red Cormorant*, £1.49 for *Blue Eagle*, £1.50 for *Red Pheasant*, £1.51½ for *Blue Hand and Sword*, £1.54 for *Red Joss* and *Red Ram*, £1.60 for *Blue Joss*, £1.62 for *Eagle*, ordinary, £1.66 for XX, and £1.67½ for *Blue Double Dragon* and *Blue Double Tea Caddy*. But the business declared up to last night did not exceed 20,000 pieces in all, and the market closes very quietly.

7-lbs.—1,000 pieces of *Green Cormorant* at £1.08 is the only transaction reported. In 6-lbs. there does not appear to have been anything done privately, whilst the sales of 9½ and 12-lbs. add up not more than 1,700 pieces and 2,900 pieces respectively, but quotations remain unaltered.

White Shirtings have received some attention this week, and a considerable trade in them has taken place, but there is nothing to note in values excepting that as a rule they have been maintained. The total settlements are returned as 36,000 pieces, fully two-thirds of them being composed of 64-reeds, and the remainder of 72 and 60-reeds in the proportion of 8,000 to 1,000 pieces. *Dawhurst's Eagle* 60-reed is quoted £1.60, and their 64 reed (*Tai Ping*) £1.80; and the quotations for 72 a 80-reed range from £1.75 up to £2.06 per piece.

T-Cloths.—Demand has visibly slackened, and although private sellers have in the main been able so far to enforce previous terms from buyers, the late auctions indicated weakness and decline.

7-lbs.—The settlements are under 15,000 pieces, and they include: *Palm Leaf*, 15×15, at £0.94, *Single Feather* at £1.01, *Tree and Fish* at £1.01½, *Gold Phoenix* at £1.05, T.T.X. at £1.07, *Gold Three Man* at £1.15, *Red Dragon* at £1.16, *Bear* at £1.17, *Hand and Branch* and *Silver Dragon*, at £1.20, &c. Of 6-lbs., 2,000 pieces *Pagoda* at £0.84 per piece are reported, and particulars of about 3,000 pieces of 8-lbs. at from £1.27/35 for common up to £1.55 for K.K. and £1.60 for *Three Feathers* have been published.

Drills.—*American*.—Enquiry has continued, in moderate degree, and under it P.M.C. lettered has been sold at £2 6½, M.M. at £2.57½, and the *Boots Cock* at £2.47½ per piece. About 5,000 pieces have changed hands. In *English* the whole business consists of a few *Beaver* (Armitage's) at £2.44 per piece, whilst that in Dutch is made up by 60 pieces *Dragon* sold at auction at £1.40½ and £1.61 per piece.

Jeans.—No sale announced.

Sheetings.—Prices of *American* as above. Sales, including 3,000 pieces of 12 a 13lbs. XXX *Joss* and *Phoenix* at £2.30 and £2.35 per piece, 14,000 pieces. In *English* a small business—800 pieces *Dragon* at £1.77½ per piece—has been done.

Fancy Cottons.—Quietness has been pervaded this department, and the business passing has been on a very limited scale. It embraces 2,600 pieces of *Lavens* at £0.51½ per piece; 800 doz. of 32-inch *Händlerchiefs* at £0.54 per piece; 1,000 pieces of *Blue Denims* at £0.04.6 per yard, 1,500 pieces *Turkey Reds* at for 2½-lbs. *Fisherman* £1.32 and £1.75 for 3½-lbs. a 4½-lbs. *Double Lion*, and a few *Cotton Lastings* at £2.25 per piece. *Velvets*, *Brocades*, &c., &c. being wholly neglected.

Cotton Yarn.—Small sales of ordinary quality 28/32 spinnings have been effected at £68/70, and 20 bales of *Bombay Gold Lion* No. 16s. have been booked at £59.00, the market generally being dull. To-day 150 bales of *Green Joss* 16/24s. have been sold to northern men at £63½ per bale.

Woolens.—The movement in *Camlets*, noted in our last report, resulted in higher prices at the auctions, and in the private settlement of about 700 pieces chiefly of the lower qualities of *Scarlet* and *Gentian*, the principal transaction being 500 pieces of *Stork* and *Bamboo* chop at £8.70 per piece. The market has since become quiet, but prices are steady, and are expected to strengthen rather than weaken. A considerable business is reported in *Lastings* also, at from £6.40/60 for low quality, black, and £8.20 for *Tiger* (fine); and over 700 pieces of *Russian Cloths* have been sold at from £16.40 to 17.50 per piece, but *Spanish Stripes* have been saleable in small lots only, and in special colours; the article, however, remaining unchanged in value. *Long-Elts* and *Lustres* have not been asked for.

(These rates include any cargo hence to Nagasaki for Charterer's account freight free.)

Keelung and back, \$1.95 per ton of coal, little demand. Foochow and back, \$3.00 per Register ton, nominal.

Settlements during the fortnight have been:—*Minna*, British barque, 134 tons, Shanghai to Foochow and thence to Tientsin, \$3,000 in full, 22 lay days. *Kolga*, British barque, 359 tons, Newchwang to Amoy, 25 Mex. cents per picul, 20 lay days. *Batavia*, British barque, 366 tons, Keelung to Amoy, \$2.50 per ton of coal, 18 lay days. *G. H. Wappaus*, British barque, 538 tons, Keelung to Shanghai, \$1.95 per ton of coal, 20 lay days. *Sooloo*, British barque, 473 tons, Chefoo to Amoy, 20 Mex. cents per picul, 18 lay days.

Exchange.—The rates for transfers and bank bills have remained unchanged since last mail, viz., 4s. 11½d. for the former and 5s. 0½d. for the latter, but the price of 4 months sight private bills advanced ¼th per tael a few days since. The business for the week has again been small. Rupees have been sold at 303½ and 304 for transfers, and 304½ post.

DAILY QUOTATIONS DURING THE WEEK.

	ON LONDON.								FRANCE.		HONGKONG.		INDIA.	
	T/Transfers.		Bank 4 m/s.		Credits 4 m/s.		Docty. 4 m/s.		Francs 4 m/s. and 6 do.		Lowest. Highest.		Lowest. Highest.	
	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.
Thursday, 20th	4.11½	4.11½	5.0½	5.0½	5.1	5.1	5.1½	5.1½	6.45/48	6.45/48	27½	27½	303½	303½
Friday, 21st	4.11½	4.11½	5.0½	5.0½	5.1	5.1	5.1½	5.1½	6.45/48	6.45/48	27½	27½	303½	303½
Saturday, 22nd	4.11½	4.11½	5.0½	5.0½	5.1	5.1	5.1½	5.1½	6.45/48	6.45/48	27½	27½	303½	303½
Monday, 24th	4.11½	4.11½	5.0½	5.0½	5.1	5.1	5.1½	5.1½	6.44/47	6.45/48	27½	27½	303½	304
Tuesday, 25th	4.11½	4.11½	5.0½	5.0½	5.1	5.1	5.1½	5.1½	6.44/47	6.44/47	27½	27½	304	304
Wednesday, 26th	4.11½	4.11½	5.0½	5.0½	5.1	5.1	5.1½	5.1½	6.44/47	6.44/47	27½	27½	304	304

Shares.—Transactions have taken place since last mail in Hongkong and Shanghai Bank shares at 124, 125, and 126 premium and exchange 73; no sales for forward delivery have been reported. China Fires have been sold at \$64 and exchange 73; Indo-China Steam at 15 discount; Shanghai Gas Co. at \$157½ and 158; Birt's Wharf at \$47; Selangor Tins at \$450, 455 and 460; Perak Tins at \$205 and 200; Sheridan Mining at \$102; China Loan Bonds of 1881 have been dealt in at \$511.

AUCTION SALES.

COTTON GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—8½-lbs.—6,000 pieces (*E-wo*, 19th instant), *Green Stag*, *Stork*, &c. at \$1.30, *Black Tea Caddy* XX \$1.41½ and \$1.67½ for *Double Blue Tea Caddy*, and (*Puen-fong*, 20th instant), \$1.25½/23½ for *Two Man*, \$1.26½ for *House*, \$1.34½/33½ and \$1.45½/47 for *Blue and Painted Britannia*, and \$1.46½/46½ for *Fish and Dragon*.

7-lbs.—1,700 pieces *Blue Britannia* at \$1.18½/18½ per piece, and *Red Tea Caddy* \$1.13½ per piece.

6-lbs.—1,650 pieces *Two Man* at \$0.94½/94 per piece.

9½-lbs. a 10½-lbs.—5,650 pieces \$1.68½/68½ for *Black Tea Caddy*, \$1.87½ for *Green Dragon*, \$1.65½/66½ for *Blue Britannia*, \$1.86½/87½ for *Red Britannia*, \$2.18 and \$2.17½ for *Painted Britannia*, sound and mildewed, \$1.90½/92 for *Hand and Branch*, and \$1.69½ for *Green Tcheong Yuen*.

12-lbs.—240 pieces *Soldier* at \$2.41½/42½ per piece.

White Shirtings—*E-wo*, 430 pieces, in 8 shops, at from \$1.51½ to \$3.74½ for *E.F.*

Yuen-fong—1,740 pieces 64-reed at \$1.51½ and \$1.46½/47½ for *Blue Light-house*, dressed and undressed, and \$1.39½/40½ for *House*; and 1,740 pieces 72-reed *Red Light-house*, dressed and undressed, at \$1.95½/95½ and \$1.92½/93 per piece.

T-Cloths—3,000 pieces 7-lbs. *Blue and Painted Britannia*, at \$1.00 and \$1.12½ per piece.

Drills—1,050 pieces *English*, at \$1.89½/90 for *Stag*, \$2.15½/18 for *Britannia*, and \$2.36½/37 for *Fish and Dragon*; and 30 pieces *American* (damaged), at \$2.55½ for *P.M.C.*, and \$2.49½ for *M.M.*

Jeans—220 pieces *P.M.C.J. American* (damaged), at \$1.91/91½ per piece.

Sheetings—1,150 pieces *American* (damaged), at \$2.93½ for *Indian Head*, \$2.55/59½ for *M.M.*, &c.

Turkey Reds—290 pieces *Mandarin* at \$1.29½ for 2½-lbs., and \$1.47/48 for 4-lbs.

WOOLLENS.

Auctions—	Scarlet.	Dk. Blue.	Gentian.	Green, and N. Green.	Orange* and Yellow.*	Ash & Lav.*	White	Purple	Black.	Brown & Mag.	Mauve.	Lt. Gt.	Sales Pcs.
<i>E-wo</i> , 19th instant.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Pcs.
Camlets, Horseman p.p.	8.91/95	8.14	8.47	.....	8.36	.....	.....	.....	7.49/50	.....	.....	.....	110
Sales, pcs....	30	10	40	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....
" H.D.B.p.p.c.	9.47	9.14	9.39	.....	9.16	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.61	9.83/84	120
Sales, pcs....	20	10	20	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	50	.....
Long Ells, H.D.B.p.p.c.	4.83	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
Sales, pcs....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
" Sea Stork .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lastings, Eleph., p.p.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.13	20
S.S.p., H.D.B., p.yd.	0.48/1/48.3	0.47.8	0.50.4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.44.6	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sales, pcs....	24	6	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	.....	.....	48
Grey M. Cloths, 52in.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sales, pcs....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
YUEN-FONG, 20th inst.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Camlets, S.S.G.p.p.c.	9.32½/35	9.22½/60	9.17½/37½	.....	9.37½/45	.....	.....	.....	9.32½	.....	9.70	9.47½/52½	700
Sales, pcs....	230	140	180	.....	30	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	30	30	.....
" G.G.p.p.c.	9.40	9.60	9.47½	10.67½/80	9.50 9.45	.....	.....	.....	9.50	.....	9.77½	.....	310
Sales, pcs....	120	50	70	20	10* 10½	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	20	.....	.....
Long Ells, G.G., p.p.	4.80	5.25	5.00	5.15	.....	.....	.....	5.06	.....	.....	.....	.....	200
Sales, pcs....	120	20	20	20	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lastings, G.G., p.p.	.....	.....	8.87½	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8.05/10	.....	.....	.....	200
Sales, pcs....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	160	.....	.....	.....	.....
S.Stripes, T.T.B.p.yd.	0.48	0.47½/47½	0.49½/49½	0.46½	.....	0.48½	.....	0.45½	0.46½	.....	0.45	.....	200
Sales, pcs....	132	24	60	12	.....	3	.....	9	9	.....	3	.....	252
KIN-MING, To-day.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Camlets, C.P.H.p.p.c.	.....	9.71/73	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.33/40	.....	9.65	.....	.....	130
Sales, pcs....	.....	100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	10	.....	.....	.....
" Ram p.p.	9.36/35	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100
" Eagle	9.25/29	8.49/48	9.02/04	.....	9.13/19	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.60/69	400
Sales, pcs....	120	80	80	.....	80	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40	.....
" Swan, p.p. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sales, pcs....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
" Duck, p.p. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sales, pcs....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Long Ells, C.P.H.p.p.c.	4.90/93	4.39	4.50	4.61	.....	.....	.....	4.82	.....	.....	.....	.....	380
Sales, pcs....	300	20	20	20	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lastings, C.P.H. Lion	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8.96/94	.....	.....	.....	100
" Eleph. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.99/7.00	.....	.....	.....	100
" Eagle .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
S.Stripes, C.P.H.p.p.c.	.....	0.41	.....	0.45	0.40	0.44	.....	0.43	0.43.4/43.2	0.42	0.43½	.....	48
Sales, pcs....	.....	3	.....	3	3	3 & 3*	.....	3	24	3	3	.....	.....

Metals.—Mr. A. Bielfeld says:—During the week business in general merchandise has continued dull, with the exception of Aniline dyes, of which considerable quantities have again been booked. **LEAD**.—100 tons LB were sold at £3.30, and £3.25 was offered but refused, for a lot of 500 tons. Small quantities of German have been done at £3.30, and 50 tons French were resold at £3.32½. **NAILROD IRON**.—Very little has been done in this staple, but prices are fairly maintained. Sales are:—100 tons Belgian at £1.92½. **BAR IRON**.—Business has been quite insignificant and, with the exception of a sale of 500 piculs square, large sizes, at £1.20, no transactions worthy of record have transpired. **PIG IRON**.—Dull but unchanged. **OLD IRON**.—The following auction sales effected during the week will about indicate the state of this market, viz:—924 piculs cart tyres at £1.69 a 1.70; 572 piculs scrap iron at £1.06; 827 piculs railway spikes at £1.05; 317 piculs telegraph wire at £0.91; 230 piculs telegraph wire at £1.41; 255 piculs telegraph wire at £1.07; 1,262 piculs ship plates at £1.19 a 1.26; 424 piculs old wire rigging at £0.86; 541 piculs old wire rigging at £1.01. **TINPLATES**.—Remain steady at quotations. **STEEL**.—Nothing doing. **SPALTER**.—Quiet, and sales of no importance. **STRAITS TIN**.—A small business doing with rates slightly easier at the close. Sales are:—200 slabs Fuk-chok; 200 slabs Ssk-kong. **COPPER AND YELLOW METAL SHEATHING**. There is a steady outlet on consumptive account, and some 20 cases have changed hands at about quotations. **JAPAN COPPER**.—Continues in a good position, 100 piculs Tiles have been moved at £16.60. **IRON WIRE**.—A sale of 100 casks Nos. 15/25 has been made at £3.75, and 350 piculs ½ inch were placed at £2 02½. **QUICKSILVER**.—No sales.

Miscellaneous.—From Mr. Bielfeld's report:—**MATCHES**.—At auction 118 cases black dip were sold at £11.50 a £12.00. 50 cases Crown chop red dip paraffine have been placed at £17.50. **WINDOW GLASS** is firm and wanted at quotations. **NEEDLES**.—There has not been much doing. Sales are:—6 cases No. 1/5 Blue Eyed, in paper boxes at £70; 20 cases No. 1/5 Silver Eyed, in tin boxes at £75; 10 cases grovels a between at £85. **ANILINE DYES**.—A better demand has been felt as far as quantity is concerned, but prices have remained unchanged. Sales include:—20,000 tins each 8 oz. scarlet RR, 2 Boys chop at £0.37; 5,000 tins each 8 oz. scarlet RR, Pleasant chop at £0.37; 40,000 bottles each 2 oz. scarlet RR, Horse chop at £0.10; 5,000 tins each 8 oz. violet, 2 Boys chop at £0.32; 10,000 bottles each 2 oz. violet, Butterfly chop (to arrive) at £0.14; 2,000 bottles each 2 oz. E-sine, Butterfly chop at £0.16; 5,000 bottles each 2 oz. blue, S orch chop at £0.12; 10,000 bottles each 2 oz. magenta, 6 Boys chop at £0.10; 2,000 bottles each 2 oz. magenta, Cow chop at £0.10; 2,000 tins each 8 oz. magenta, Flower chop at £0.50; 2,000 tins each 8 oz. magenta, 2 Pleasant chop at £0.45; 3,000 bottles each 2 oz. green, Pleasant chop at £0.07; 11,000 tins each 8 oz. green, Ship chop at £0.09; 5,400 bottles each 2 oz. crystal, green, Elephant chop at £0.22½; 100 cases each 1 picul ultramarine at £4.50; 60 do. at £4.00; 155 do. at £3.50.

Coal.—From Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s Report:—The market continues extremely dull for all descriptions of coal. **CARDIFF** is without demand. **AMERICAN ANTHRACITE**.—We have no sales to note. **AUSTRALIAN**.—Wollongong finds sale only in small lots ex godown, and in the absence of other transactions the quotation given is purely nominal. There is no enquiry for Newcastle, N.S.W., coal. **JAPAN**.—The bulk of arrivals have been of Miiké coal in fulfilment of contracts. Contracts for supplies of Miiké lump to consumers during this year have been settled to the extent of about 40,000 tons, at prices ranging from £3.85 to £4.00 per ton. Sales of Takasima Lump to a limited extent have been made at the advanced rate of £5.00 per ton ex godown. **KEELUNG**.—The market is quiet, as late arrivals have satisfied requirements.

Cargo quotations are:—

Cardiff, ex ship	Tls. 9.00 per ton.	Japan, Takasima Dust, ex ship.....	Tls. 3.00 per ton.
American Anthracite, to arrive.....	8.75 "	Miiké Lump, ex ship	4.00 "
Sydney, Wollongong, ex ship	6.00 "	Dust, ex ship	3.00 "
Coal Cliff, ex ship	5.00 "	Imabuko, ex ship	3.00 "
Newcastle, N.S.W., ex ship	5.00 "	Karatz, ex ship	3.50 "
Japan, Takasima Lump, ex ship	4.50 "	Keelung, ex ship to arrive.....	3.60 "

(The above quotations are for cargo, and do not represent rates for small lots ex godown, which fluctuate with the supply and demand.)

Arrivals during the fortnight have been:—Miiké Lump, 5,284 tons; Takasima Lump, 1,526 tons; Takasima Dust, 300 tons; Keelung, 700 tons; Mixed Japan, 2,660 tons; Total 10,470 tons.

Opium.—Closing quotations:—Malwa (new) at £42½, and (old) at £455; Patna (new) at £465; Benares (new) at £465.

Kerosene Oil.—Business has been very small, both speculators and consumers holding aloof, and quotations are nominally unchanged. The Gardner Colby reported arrived at Woussong has not yet put in appearance, while the Northern Empire with 35,200 cases Stella brand arrived on the 24th. Stocks are estimated at about 360,000 cases.

Chinese Market.—**SUGAR**.—Trade continues on a small scale, the reported settlements of the week being only 4,300 piculs at previous rates. **PEPPER**.—Black has advanced considerably in price; white is unaltered. **SANDALWOOD**.—A considerable business has been done say 1,000 piculs South Sea, 300 piculs Timor, 150 piculs Malabar. **CORTEX**.—Little doing and rates unchanged. **HIDES**.—Sales 500 piculs. **FLINTS**.—Sales 150 piculs.

EX. PORTS.

Silk.—Purchases of silk for the week amount to about 400 bales in some cases at slightly easier rates. They include:—**TSATLEE**.—Red Elephant at £387½, Blue Elephant at £377½, Ku-kee Ching-hock at £373½, large Elephant Suet-fong and Bird Ching-ling at £362½, Chang-ling at £361½, Zang-ling at £348. **KAHINGS**.—Green at £345. **YELLOW**s at £200 to 230. **CHEFOO TUSSEH** at £117½. Re-reels Foo-yuen at £160, Market No. 3 at £390.

Stock—2,800 bales; against 19,000 in 1883 and 14,500 in 1882.

EXPORT FOR SEASON 1883-1884.

	To London.	France.	Switzerland	Hongkong & New York & Bombay	Suez & Straits.	Alexandria.	Beyroul.	Total.
For season to date	15,828	24,330	436	710	2,247	844	158	45,038 bales.
Against season 1882-83	11,158	26,044	1,719	747	4,306	729	178	100 44,956 "
" " 1881-82	10,789	24,912	563	713	5,878	1,280	97	44,232 "

From commencement of season to date, Export of Wild Silk, 2,426 bales, not included in the above, against 264 bales last season.

Tea.—**GREEN**.—Settlements during the week have been 1,800 boxes Pingsueys at £15 to £27 per picul. **STOCK**.—Country Tea 817 ½-chests, Pingsueys 531 ½-chests 2,042 boxes.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM SHANGHAI AND YANGTSE FORTS.

	1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
	Black. Green. Total.	Black. Green. Total.	Black. Green. Total.
To Great Britain	67,035,402 8,041,501 75,706,903 lbs.	65,796,686* 6,915,541 72,712,227 lbs.	72,373,801 7,749,075 80,123,506 lbs.
Russia direct.....	10,746,694	10,307,031*	7,436,956
United States	2,615,211 11,350,028 13,965,239 "	3,797,178 16,518,516 20,315,694 "	3,366,055 20,496,962 23,863,017 "
* Including cargo of <i>Flours Castle</i> (s.) 2,891,203 lbs. Black Tea.—Lost.			
† Including cargo of <i>Morkwa</i> (s.) 1,970,729 lbs. Black Tea.—Lost.			
And from all China. Season—	1883-84.	1882-83.	1881-82.
To Great Britain	143,239,481 8,041,501 151,280,982;	143,018,066 6,917,662 149,935,728;	153,501,303 7,758,705 161,260,008 lbs.
United States from China .....	.....	.....	.....
and Japan	63,045,783	70,802,804 .....	.....

Freights.—From Messrs. Wheelock & Co. circular.—Since the publication of our last on the 11th instant there has been little demand for tonnage except for the Newchwang and Chefoo trade for the South, for which rates are fairly good.

For the coal carrying trade between Nagasaki and this we have no settlements whatever to note.

For London via Suez Canal.—Rates by the mail steamers and Holt's line are unaltered, being 50s. by the former and 47s. 6d. per 40 cubic feet by the latter. There is no sailing vessel loading.

For New York via Suez Canal.—The s.s. *Moray* has completed her engagements at 50s. per 40 cubic feet; she will probably clear to-morrow, and call in at Hongkong to fill up. There is no sailing vessel on the berth.

Quotations for sailing vessels are:—Newchwang to Swatow, 25 Mex. cents per picul, little demand. Chefoo to Swatow, 20 Mex. cents per picul, nominal, fair enquiry. Nagasaki and bank, \$1.80 per ton of Coal for small vessels, nominal.

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.			DUTY.*	QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.			DUTY.*
			Tls. m. c.				Tls. m. c.
G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—				PRINTED TWEILS—24/25 yds			
6-lbs 39-in 38½-yds.....nom	pc.	0.94 to 1.15		50/52	pc.	1.30 „ 1.70	
7-lbs „ „ „ „ „		1.05 „ 1.30		Special „ „ „		2.70 „ 3.40	0.07 per 30 yd.
Dewhurst's Eagle „ „ „		None „ „		TURKEY REDS—			
8½ to 8½-lbs „ „ „		1.17 „ 1.66		24-yd 1½ to 3-lbs. 32-in, nom	pc.	0.85 „ 1.50	
D. Eagle XX „ „ „		1.62 „ 1.66		Best „ „ „		1.60 „ 1.80	0.15 per pce.
9 to 9½-lbs „ „ „		1.62½ „ 1.95		VELVETS—Black, 22-in.....nom			
9½ to 10-lbs „ „ „		1.65 „ 2.20		VELVETRENS—Black, 18-in „	yd.	0.13½ „ 0.16	0.18 per pce.
Dewhurst's, Best „ „ „		2.16 „ 2.45		26-in „ „ „		0.16 „ 0.17½	0.15 „
11 to 12-lbs English 36 in „		2.00 „ 2.50	0.08 per pce.	„ „ „		0.03 „ 0.04	5 per cent. ad. val.
12-lbs American 36 in „		2.30 „ 2.72½		BLUE DENIMS „ „ „			
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—				DIMITIES—12-yd 37-in „	pc.	0.90 „ 1.20	0.06½ per pce.
40-yds 36-in 56-rd.....	pc.	1.25 „ 1.40		41-in „ „ „		1.00 „ 1.34	0.03½ „
60-reed „ „ „		1.30 „ 1.44		MUSLINS—12-yd 42-in.....			
64 „ „ „		1.40 „ 1.77		YARN—COTTON—Nos. 28/32 „		67.00 „ 76.00	0.70 per pcl.
64 „ „ Best and 66-reed „		1.77 „ 1.85		16/24, nom „ „		58.00 „ 64.00	
72 to 80-reed „ „ „		1.70 „ 2.20		CAMLETS—English, SS.....			
Best „ „ „		2.25 „ 2.65		GG „ „ „	pc.	8.50 „ 9.75	
DRILLS, Am. 40-yd 30-in 14-lbs				SSG „ „ „		9.54 „ „	
English, „ 14 to 15-lbs, nom		1.40 „ 1.95	0.10 „	HDB „ „ „		9.37 „ „	
„ „ Good to Finest, nom		1.90 „ 2.43		CPH „ „ „		9.66 „ „	0.05
Dutch, 14 to 14½-lbs „		1.60 „ 2.25		Dutch, 33 to 24-in nom.			
JEANS, Dh., 30-yd 30-in 8½-lbs	pc.	1.55 „ 1.70	0.07½ „	Do. 37-in „ „ „		15.00 „ 19.00	
English, „ 8 to 8½-lbs „		1.07½ „ 1.85		„ „ „		16.50 „ 21.00	
American „ Beaver „ „		1.75 „ 2.00		MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS „			
SHEETINGS—				SPANISH STRIPES „ „ „	yd.	0.65 „ 1.10	
Am., 40-yd 36 to 38-in. 14-lbs.	pc.	2.50 „ 2.95	0.08 „	„ „ HDB „ „		0.35 „ 0.55	
Eng. „ „ 14 to 16-lbs „		1.70 „ 2.50		„ „ TTB „ „		0.44, 0.50, 0.4	0.12
T-CLOTHS—				„ „ HH „ „		0.50 „ 0.55	
6-lbs 24-yd 32-in Ord., nom	pc.	0.80 „ 0.90		„ „ BTI „ „		0.45½ „ 0.48½	
7-lbs „ „ „		0.85 „ 0.90	0.04 „	„ „ CPH „ „		0.40 „ 0.46	
6-lbs Mexican „ „ „		none „ „		LONG ELLS—			
7-lbs „ „ „		0.95 „ 1.30		Scarlet, 24-yd GG.....	pc.	4.80 „ „	
7-lbs Mexican Special chops		1.25 „ 1.65		„ „ HH „ „		5.10 „ 5.20	
8 to 8½-lbs „ „ „		1.20 „ 1.60	0.08 „	„ „ CPH „ „		4.90 „ 4.93	
Better kinds and XX „ „		1.72½ „ 1.80		„ „ UU „ „		4.87½ „ 4.85	
HANDKERCHIEFS—				„ „ HDB „ „		4.83 „ „	
Blue, 23 to 32-in. „ „	doz.	0.38 to 0.54	0.02½ pe doz.	„ „ V „ „		4.72½ „ 4.77½	0.04½
Brown „ „ „		0.35 „ 0.40		„ „ Sundries „ „		4.50 „ 5.90	
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS—White.				Assorted, HH „ „		nom. „ „	
Dyed, nom „ „	pc.	2.00 „ 2.30	0.15 „	„ „ CPH „ „		„ „ „	
BROCADES—White, 40-yd „		1.85 „ 2.00	0.10 „	„ „ GG „ „		„ „ „	
Dyed „ „ „		2.25 „ 2.45	0.15 „	„ „ UU „ „		„ „ „	
DAMASKS—Dyed, 40-yd, nom		2.90 „ 3.75	0.20 „	LASTINGS, 30-yd „ „			
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS „ „		1.90 „ 2.20	0.15 „	CRAP LASTINGS, 30-yd nom	pc.	5.25 „ 9.30	0.05
CHINTZ—Assorted „ „	pc.	1.10 „ 1.40		CRAP LUSTRES „ „ „		2.50 „ 6.00	
Blue „ „ „		0.90 „ 1.15	0.07 per pce.	PLAIN LUSTRES, Black „ „		2.75 „ 3.40	0.20 per pcl.
Brown „ „ „		1.10 „ 1.20		ORLEANS—Figured, 30-yd „		2.25 „ 2.75	
Scarlet „ „ „		1.25 „ 1.40		Special Colors & Patterns „		2.50 „ 3.30	

* Haikwan Sycee Tls. 100=Shanghai Currency Tls. 111.40.

METALS.		QUOTATIONS.		SUNDRIES.		QUOTATIONS.	
		T.m.c.	T.m.c.			T.m.c.	T.m.c.
JAPAN COPPER—Tiles, bent		16.50 @	17.50	SUGAR—		4.90 @	5.30
„ „ Ore „ „		15.50 „	17.00	White, Swatow, No. 1 „	per picul	4.20 „	4.70
QUICKSILVER—American		42.50 „	„	„ „ „ 2 „		3.50 „	4.00
TIN PLATES—Parson's		4.40 „	4.60	White, Canton, No. 1 „		4.80 „	5.20
STEEL		„ „	„	„ „ „ 2 „		4.10 „	4.60
Bamboo „ „ „	per picul	3.00 „	3.10	„ „ „ 3 „		3.40 „	3.90
Tin, Fong Hing		22.00 „	„	Brown, Swatow, Best „		3.00 „	3.30
Fok Chok „ „ „		21.60 „	„	„ „ Common „		2.60 „	2.80
Chowkung, &c. „ „		21.40 „	„	„ „ Canton „		2.90 „	3.20
FIG IRON		16.00 „	21.50	„ „ Common „		2.50 „	2.50
IRON WIRE, Nov. 11 a 21		3.40 „	3.60	PEPPER—Black „		13.00 „	14.00
„ „ 14 a 25 „	nom. per picul	3.60 „	3.80	White „		16.00 „	17.00
„ „ 18 a 25 „		3.80 „	4.00	HATTANS—Common „		3.00 „	3.60
IRON—Nail Rod—				Good to fine „		„ „	„
Dawes' Best „ „	per picul	2.15 „	2.20	Best „		4.00 „	5.00
H. Rogers, Sons & Co. „		2.05 „	2.15	JAPAN WOOD—			
Sohier „ „ „		1.90 „	1.92½	3 pieces to the picul „	per picul	1.80 „	2.60
Belgian „ „ „		1.90 „	1.92½	6 & 7 „ „ & inf. „		2.30 „	2.60
English—Bar „ „		1.70 „	2.00	SANDALWOOD, South Sea „		2.90 „	3.20
Belgian „ „ „		1.40 „	1.80	Timor „		5.50 „	8.50
LEAD—				Malabar „		13.00 „	19.00
I. B. „ „ „		3.30 „	3.35	WINDOW GLASS—			
French „ „ „		„ „	„	Good assortment „	per box	2.45 „	2.55
German „ „ „		„ „	„	KROSEN—Devooe „	per case	1.38 „	1.40
				FLINT STONES „	per picul	0.42 „	0.46
				COTTON—Shanghai, best „		12.00 „	12.40
				Compoek „		11.50 „	12.20
				RICE—Shanghai „	p. 150 cat.	2.60 „	2.80
				Chinkiang „		2.20 „	2.50
				HIDES—Cow „	per picul	13.00 „	„

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per Str. "PATROCLUS," cleared 18th March, for LONDON.—Silk—waste 129.82 piculs, pongees 12.33 piculs. Bristles 2.66 piculs. Hides 286.28 piculs. Rhubarb 20.28 piculs. Tobacco leaf 337.25 piculs. Strawbraid 720.12 piculs. Rugs—goatskin 13,600. For LIVERPOOL.—Strawbraid 99.30 piculs.

Per Str. "GENKAI MARU," cleared 18th March for NEW YORK.—Musk 0.14½ piculs.

Per Str. "IRAOUADDY," cleared 20th March, for LONDON.—Silk—waste 17.93 piculs. For LYONS.—Strawbraid 41.18 piculs. For MARSEILLES.—Hides 349.50 piculs. Musk 0.47½ piculs. Nutgalls 148.02 piculs. For LEGHORN.—Hides 132.44 piculs. For GENOA.—Hides 393.93 piculs. For NAPLES.—Hides 383 piculs. For BARCELONA.—Hides 25.15 piculs.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 24th March, 1884, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 62 to 67, both numbers inclusive.

GOODS.	RE-EXPORTS AND THEIR DESTINATIONS.													
	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hogo.	Yokohama.
Gray Shirtings † Pcs.	8,000	850	16,610	2,800	6,200	33,000	1,650	33,750	...	1,480	...	50	...	10,400
T-Cloths "	5,935	775	2,040	1,220	1,670	7,035	5,650	3,250	...	2,275	...	...	...	2,900
White Shirtings "	1,930	190	2,680	750	332	13,329	180	8,791	...	480	...	210	620	1,155
Drills, English and Dutch "	270	...	225	...	...	135	855	2,460	...	60	30	...	...	120
" American "	...	...	105	...	...	225	1,725	1,620	...	...	...	...	...	240
Jeans, English and Dutch "	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	2,170	...	...	...	...	...	120
" American "	...	...	...	...	...	...	80	1,240	...	...	...	...	...	100
Sheetings, English "	40	...	250	780	180	2,080	200	1,120	...	...	...	...	...	50
" American "	400	...	440	60	20	1,140	400	10,100	...	...	...	...	...	600
Dyed Shirtings "	...	...	54	...	85	103	...	250	...	...	...	...	...	50
Brocades & Sp. S'tings, White "	...	...	...	...	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Dyed "	30	...	70	...	5	140	350	569	...	150	...	...	...	40
Damasks, Dyed "	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	200	...	...	...	...	...	40
Chintzes "	435	...	335	...	70	740	40	1,102	...	...	...	...	...	450
Printed T-Cloths "	170	...	260	...	...	160	50	1,060	...	135	...	...	...	...
Printed Twills "	80	...	600	...	80	720	...	1,800	...	...	...	...	...	100
Turkey Red Shirtings "	330	50	920	80	...	400	400	4,632	...	100	500	...	...	200
Velvets "	...	...	...	48	48	258	24	...	...	60	...	...	...	60
Velveteens "	...	...	24	...	...	48	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	...
Handkerchiefs Doz.	642	...	1,400	200	450	1,790	...	1,286	...	...	...	...	...	800
Muslins Pcs.	100	...	300	...	100	1,200	...	300	...	600	200	4,800	...	400
Dimities "	...	...	...	...	63	636	36	286	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton Yarn Pcs.	42	12	210	12	48	162	...	96	...	42	36	...	...	48
Spanish Stripes Pcs.	6	...	84	6	...	142	40	...	...	36	...	...	10	40
Medium and Broad Cloths "	60	50	110	110	190	1,180	20	240	...	160	270	...	...	60
Camlets "	...	...	140	20	80	600	20	40	...	20	...	...	...	40
Long Ellis "	20	...	60	...	70	970	...	530	...	40	...	...	...	20
" Crapes "	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lastings, Cotton & Italians "	140	...	179	...	30	1,439	650	2,669	...	70	...	...	...	40
Lustres, Plain "	49	...	...	3	...	50	...	150	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Figured "	18	...	400	...	120	780	...	220	...	...	...	...	...	180
" Crapes "	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lead in Pigs Pcs.	316	13	794	56	255	4,447	...	...	...	2,330	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod "	1,075	...	1,470	184	...	2,617	227	840	...	...	...	84	...	...

GOODS.	‡ TOTAL DELIVERIES.			TOTAL IMPORTS.			STOCKS AT DATE ARE BASED ON THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RETURNS, DATED 1ST JAN., 1884.	
	For the Week.	For Year From 1st Jan., 1884.	Against last year same term.	For the Week.	For Year From 1st Jan., 1884.	Against last year same term.	† At date Estimated.	Against 26th March, 1883
Gray Shirtings † Pcs.	115,090	849,282	680,326	120,969	690,217	887,178	1,240,000	2,121,600
T-Cloths "	32,750	297,515	280,853	34,749	317,038	362,960	783,100	626,300
White Shirtings "	31,297	235,306	196,860	73,703	329,323	265,749	353,200	515,700
Drills, English and Dutch "	4,155	37,518	21,138	3,975	21,520	8,541	115,600	353,300
" American "	3,990	23,230	10,765	240	37,376	44,250	186,100	239,200
Jeans, English and Dutch "	2,590	20,360	25,194	240	11,660	37,500	34,400	55,700
" American "	1,580	8,570	310	2,000	10,320	720	32,000	2,400
Sheetings, English "	4,700	35,831	31,539	5,210	31,570	21,408	66,300	107,900
" Am. "	13,560	103,149	44,260	17,160	77,910	150,230	239,400	242,600
Dyed Shirtings "	542	7,733	6,008	551	13,394	10,807	12,100	27,500
Bro. & Spot. Shts., White "	50	721	1,080	150	3,283	992	6,600	500
" Dyed "	1,354	10,036	5,926	2,659	17,151	9,331	11,700	24,200
Damasks, Dyed "	280	940	830	...	...	2,399	5,050	8,700
Chintzes "	3,172	29,533	22,188	4,550	57,789	37,227	53,200	56,100
Printed T-Cloths "	1,935	8,871	...	899	12,934	...	...	...
Printed Twills "	3,380	24,409	19,580	80	39,235	23,622	53,200	59,800
Turkey Red Shirtings "	7,674	70,056	44,007	9,072	59,211	55,207	88,700	121,900
Velvets "	498	8,293	3,556	300	260	4,557	1,730	19,100
Velveteens "	102	904	973	930	2,890	2,298	3,300	7,000
Handkerchiefs Doz.	6,568	48,621	38,547	...	48,781	46,349	96,600	172,000
Muslins Pcs.	8,000	48,085	38,857	10,120	73,409	20,483	33,200	7,300
Dimities "	...	300	1,260	...	...	999	1,570	900
Cotton Yarn Pcs.	1,021	7,264	2,855	1,313	6,773	5,445	8,830	7,800
Spanish Stripes Pcs.	744	7,429	6,504	684	6,904	8,749	13,800	18,800
Medium and Broad Cloths "	370	3,288	2,890	172	900	8,140	17,700	30,100
Camlets "	2,480	20,460	18,303	3,130	22,765	12,785	22,600	35,700
Long Ellis "	1,000	12,160	12,780	2,400	12,380	14,852	22,300	43,200
Lastings "	1,750	14,056	13,740	1,420	15,141	19,779	25,600	34,700
" Crapes "	20	500	200	...	100	610	2,080	2,800
Cotton Lastings & Italians "	5,217	55,579	23,324	10,379	71,997	16,859	68,300	43,700
Lustres, Plain "	249	549	2,500	450	1,749	...	500	1,700
" Figured "	1,943	17,876	14,715	2,799	21,879	18,292	38,000	49,800
" Crapes "	...	110	...	...	...	...	390	1,300
Lead in Pigs Pcs.	8,211	46,293	17,434	5,051	22,127	58,763	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod "	6,497	25,014	13,571	1,260	24,630	13,553	...	...

* Exclusive of Import Cargoes ex *Sindh, Glencoe, Reporter, Ajax, Sarpedon, Glenelg, and Thames.*

Import Cargo declared *Olyde, Patroclus, Achilles, and additional ex Glenroy, and Glenearn.*

† Including *English and Dutch* 12-lus.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

26TH MARCH, 1884.

VESSELS LOADING FOR FOREIGN PORTS.—For London via Suez Canal—s.s. *Ajax*; for London via Suez Canal, calling at usual Ports—s.s. *Ashburne*. For New York, &c., with mail, &c., M.B. Co.'s str. *Hiroshima Maru*; for New York via Suez Canal, calling at usual Ports—s.s. *Moray*.

EXCHANGE.—On London—Telegraphic Transfers, 4s. 11½d.; Bank Bills, 4 months' sight, 5s. 0½d.; First-class Credits to Banks, 4 months' sight, 5s. 1d., 6 months' sight, 5s. 1½d.; Private and Documentary, 4 months' sight, 5s. 1½d., 6 months' sight, 5s. 1½d. On France—Bank, Bills, demand, Fes. 6.20, Credits and Documentary, 4 months' 6.44; 6 months' sight, 6.47. On New York—Credit and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 80. On Hongkong—Telegraphic Transfers, 27½; Private Bills, 3 days' sight, 27½. On Bombay—Telegraphic Transfers Rs. 304; Calcutta, Rs. 304. Bullion—Gold Bar, Pekin, 98 touch, Tls. 196. Silver Bars, Tls. 111.18. Mexican Dollars, Tls. 72 80. Carolus Dollars, Tls. 77.00. Copper Cash, 1,520.

SHARES.

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.—The business for the week has been limited, purchases being solely on account of investors. On the 20th shares were sold at 124% premium and ex. 73, since which transactions took place at 125% and 126% premium ex. 73. The market again shows weakness, both here and in Hongkong, and shares can now be procured locally at 124% premium.

Indo-China Steam Navigation Co.—A better feeling has been shown in this stock, and several transactions have taken place at 15% discount, at which price there are buyers.

Shanghai Gas Co.—Sales have been made at £157½ and £158 per share.

Canton Insurance Office.—The market for this stock is weaker, and shares are offering at \$100 per share.

Chinese Insurance Co.—There are sellers of these shares at \$200, at which rate we quote them.

China Fire Insurance Co.—Shares have been in demand during the week at \$64 without finding sellers.

Birt's Wharf and Godown Co.—There has been business done in these shares at £47.

Selangor Tin Mining Co.—The market has been steadier than usual this week, business having been done at \$455, 460 and \$450.

Perak Tin Mining & Smelting Co.—Business has been done at \$200, the market closing weak with sellers.

Sheridan Mining Co.—Sales have taken place at £102.

Shanghai Waterworks' Co.—Business has been done at £28 10s. cum new shares.

Chinese Imperial Government Loan of 1881.—Bonds have been placed at £511.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	POSITION PER LAST REPORT.			LAST DIVIDEND, &c.		CASH QUOTATIONS.
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Shareholders.	When pd. or due.	
<i>Bank.</i>									
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Co	60,000	\$125	\$125	4,063,361.66	\$57,645.23	31 Dec. 83	* £2	1 Mar. 84	124% prem.
<i>Shipping.</i>									
Shanghai Tug Boat Association	1,000	£100	£100	.....	\$8,660.77	31 Mar. 83	3 %	24 July 83	£95
China Shipowners' Association	1,380	£100	£100	.....	\$14,373.68	31 Mar. 83	+ 3 %	23 Feb. 83	£75
Indo-China Steam Nav. Co. ...	60,000	£10	£10	.....	\$8,570.07	31 Dec. 82	None.		15% disc.
Shanghai Shipping Co.	150	£1,000	£1,000	.....	\$2,696.03	31 Dec. 83	None.		£800
<i>Docks.</i>									
Shanghai Dock Co.	440	£500	£500	\$9,500.00	£198.03	31 Dec. 83	* 2 %	11 Jan. 84	245
Pootung Dock Co.	950	£100	£100	.....	\$965.41	31 Dec. 83	* 5 %	11 Jan. 84	140
<i>Gas.</i>									
Shanghai Gas Co.	1,500	£100	£100	\$49,000.00	\$19,389.08	31 Dec. 82	* 6 %	15 Jan. 84	158
Compagnie du Gaz	500	£100	£100	\$15,477.25	\$14.34	31 Dec. 83	* 6 %	1 Mar. 84	145
<i>Insurance (Marine.)</i>									
China Traders' Insurance Co., Limited.....	24,000	\$83.33	\$25	\$600,000.00	\$107,411.65	30 Apl. 83	22 %	31 July 83	£73
North-China Ins. Co., Ltd.	5,000	£200	£50	.....	.....	.....	£11.33	15 Jan. 84	£270
Union In. Society of Canton Ltd.	2,000	\$1,250	\$125	\$500,000.00	\$580,391.99	30 June 83	\$18.29	20 Oct. 83	\$600
Yangtze Insurance Ass'n Ltd.	8,000	£25	£25	\$50,000.00	.....	.....	6 %	18 Jan. 84	£930
Chinese Insurance Co., Limited	1,500	\$1,000	\$200	\$100,378.44	\$3,907.18	31 Dec. 82	* 2 %	2 Jan. 84	\$200
Canton Insurance Office ...	10,000	\$250	\$50	\$55,000.00	.....	31 Dec. 82	+ 10 %	1 Jan. 84	\$100
<i>Insurance (Fire.)</i>									
Hongkong Fire In. Co., Limited	8,000	\$250	\$50	\$861,000.00	\$250,732.56	31 Dec. 82	+ 40 %	11 Mar. 84	\$345
China Fire In. Co., Limited ..	20,000	\$100	\$20	\$516,978.00	\$129,978.34	31 Dec. 83	+ 20 %	4 Mar. 84	\$64
<i>Wharfs.</i>									
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co.	2,867	£100	£100	£96,280.60	£927.08	.....	* 10½ %	16 Aug. 83	£300
Birt's Wharf Hide-Curing and Wool-Cleaning Company ...	2,100	£50	£50	£3,449.46	.....	31 Oct. 83	* 5 %	5 Dec. 83	£47
Pootung Wharf & Godown Co.	1,750	£100	£100	.....	£2,539.21	31 Dec. 82	3 %	8 Aug. 83	£93
<i>Mining.</i>									
Selangor Tin Mining Co.	2,500	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	.....	None.		\$450
Perak Tin Mining & Smelting Co.	3,000	\$50	\$50	.....	.....	.....	None.		\$200
Stonewall (Colorado) Mining & Milling Co.	4,000	\$100	\$70	.....	.....	.....	None.		£102
Sheridan Mining Co.	3,000	£100	£100	.....	.....	.....	None.		£102
<i>Cargo Boats.</i>									
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£200	£200	£2,881.75	.....	31 Dec. 83	* 4 %	14 Aug. 83	£180
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co. ...	1,000	£100	£100	£1,000.00	£848.57	31 Dec. 83	+ 3 %	13 Feb. 84	£75
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>									
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.	5,000	£20	£20	.....	.....	.....	None.		£28 10s.
Do. do. new issue	1,000	£5 pm. & £5 call	.....	.....	.....	.....	None.		£20
Shanghai Electric Co.	500	£100	£100	.....	£8,525.98	31 May 83	None.		£20
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co. ...	5,000	£50	£50	.....	.....	.....	None.		£35

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Nominal Value of Bonds or Debentures.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1875	£ 42,800.00	£ 100.00	8 %	30th June & 31st Dec.	£104 nom.
Do. 1878	£ 24,000.00	£ 100.00	"	30th June & 31st Dec.	£105 "
Lycium Theatre Ordinary Debentures.	£ 17,000.00	£ 25.00	"	30th June.	£ 20 "
Do. Preference do.	£ 5,362.50	£ 37.50	5 %	31st Dec.	£ 20 "
Chinese Imperial Government Loan 1874	£ 627,615	£ 100	8 %	30th June & 31st Dec.	£109½ "
Do. do. 1877	£ 1,604,276	£ 100	8 %	28th Feb. & 31st Aug.	£105½ "
Do. do. 1878	£ 1,949,500	£ 500	8 %	April and October.	£100 "
Do. do. 1881	£ 4,384,000	£ 500	8 %	December and June.	£511 "

* For half-year. † For year. ‡ A deficit. § Reserve for equalization of dividends. J. F. BISSET & Co.

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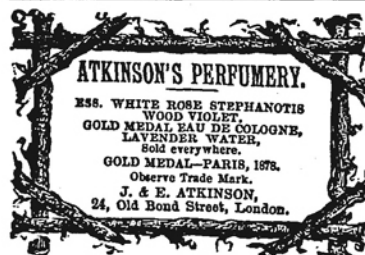
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11th April, 1883.

J. P. COWLES, JR.,
TEA-INSPECTOR, PACKER
and SHIPPER,
FOOCHOW.

FIRMS WITHDRAWING AFTER SEASON IS
SPENT, REPRESENTED.

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11 22 7th July, 1882.

SHANGHAI SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS
(SINCE REPORT PER LAST ISSUE.)

DATE.	SHIP'S NAME.	FLAG & Rig.	TON.	CAPTAIN.	FROM	SAILED.	CARGO.	CONSIGNEES.
Mar 18	Kiang-teen	Chi str	1368	Boswell	Ningpo	Mar 17	General	C. M. S. N. Co
... 18	Amoy	Br str	814	Potts	Nagasaki	... 15	Coal and Planks	Siemssen and Co
... 18	Kiang-foo	Chi str	1468	Morse	Hankow	... 15	General	C. M. S. N. Co
... 18	Pautah	Chi str	869	Patterson	Tientsin	... 15	do	C. M. S. N. Co
... 18	Peking	Br str	951	Heuermann	Hongkong	... 14	do	Siemssen and Co
... 18	Chuefoo	Br str	681	Hutchison	Tientsin	... 15	Ballast	Butterfield and Swire
... 18	Benclotha	Br str	1338	Lunt	Hongkong	... 13	General	C. M. S. N. Co

ARRIVALS—Continued.

DATE.	SHIP'S NAME.	FLAG & RIG.	TON.	CAPTAIN.	FROM.	SAILED.	CARGO.	CONSIGNEES.
Mar 19	Funsin	Br str	610	Goodfellow	Ningpo	Mar 18	General	Butterfield and Swire
...	19 Ajax	Br str	1549	Riley	London, &c.	Jan 19	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	19 Fungshan	Chi str	863	Tisdall	Tientsin	Mar 16	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	19 Keelung	Br str	919	Clegg	Swatow	...	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	19 El Dorado	Br str	900	Young	Tientsin & Chefoo	...	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	19 Tamsui	Br str	919	Cotter	Taiwan-foo	...	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	19 Thames	Br str	2131	Anderson	Bombay, &c.	...	Mails, &c	P. & O. S. N. Co
...	20 Kiang-teen	Chi str	1368	Boswell	Ningpo	...	General	C. M. S. N. Co
...	20 Greatham Hall	Br str	451	O'Brien	Tientsin	...	do	Morris and Co
...	20 Ngankin	Br str	1921	Perks	Hankow	...	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	20 Fushun	Br str	1504	Croard	Hongkong	...	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	20 Chibaya Maru	Jap bq	441	Murray	Kuchinotzu	...	Coals	M. B. Kaishia
...	21 Taku	Br str	608	Howden	Foochow	...	General	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	21 Funsin	Br str	610	Goodfellow	Ningpo	...	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	21 Yoritomo Maru	Jap str	612	Gall	Kuchinotzu	...	Coals	M. B. Kaishia
...	21 Sunl	Br str	261	Scott	Hankow	...	General	G. McBain
...	21 Kang Wo	Br str	737	Flagg	Hankow	...	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	21 Sin Nanzing	Br str	714	Waddilove	Tientsin	...	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	21 Pechili	Br str	880	Hurst	Tientsin	...	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	21 Villars	Fr corv	2400	Viville	Amoy	...	General	J. Baessler & Co
...	21 Wha-on	Br str	262	Carozzi	Hankow	...	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	22 Kiangteen	Chi str	1368	Boswell	Ningpo	...	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	22 Nagoyn Maru	Jap str	1914	Walker	Japau	...	Mails, &c.	M. B. M. S. S. Co
...	22 Fungning	Chi str	324	Warwick	Newchow	...	General	C. M. S. N. Co
...	22 Sooloo	Br bq	473	Baiki	Nagasaki	...	Coals	Morris and Co
...	22 Wingsang	Br str	1517	St. Croix	Hongkong	...	General	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	22 Kiang-yung	Chi str	1037	Chang	Hankow	...	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	22 Feilu-g	Br str	752	Allison	Amoy	...	Ballast	Butterfield and Swire
...	23 Funsin	Br str	610	Goodfellow	Ningpo	...	General	Butterfield and Swire
...	23 Kumsako Maru	Jap bq	464	Ellis	Kuchinotzu	...	Coals	M. B. Kaishia
...	23 Shanghai	Br str	1198	Marin	Hankow	...	General	Butterfield and Swire
...	23 Baikal	Russ str	718	Danilovitch	Nagasaki	...	do	Fearon, Low and Co
...	24 Rory	Br str	1261	Marsden	H'kong, S'tow, & Amoy	Mar 15	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	24 Jo lua Nicholson	Br str	1195	Harrison	Glazgow & H'kong	Jan 11	do	Primrose and Co
...	24 Ashburne	Br str	1613	Lambert	Yokohama & Nagasaki	Mar 21	do	Adamson, Bell and Co

DEPARTURES
(FROM THE ANCHORAGE AND WOOSUNG.)

DATE.	SHIP'S NAME.	FLAG & RIG.	TON.	CAPTAIN.	DESTINATION.	CARGO.	DISPATCHED BY
Mar 18	Yungching	Chi str	661	Lincoln	Tientsin	Sundries	C. M. S. N. Co
...	18 Patroclus	Br str	1650	Brown	London v. Swatow	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	18 Kiang-yi	Chi str	2270	Knights	Hankow and Ports	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	18 Kwang-lee	Br str	1507	Andrew	Tientsin	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	18 Hae-shin	Chi str	763	Petersen	Foochow	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	18 Chang King	Br str	793	Deville	Tientsin	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	18 Kowshing	Br str	1354	Webster	Tientsin	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	18 Kiang-teen	Chi str	1368	Boswell	Ningpo	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	19 Ingo	Ger str	671	Jesselsen	Nagasaki	Ballast	M. B. M. S. S. Co
...	19 Hiedeyoshi Maru	Jap str	466	Black	Kuchinotzu	do	M. B. Kaishia
...	19 Hae-an	Chi str	710	Andrew	Tientsin	Sundries	C. M. S. N. Co
...	19 Genki Maru	Jap str	1084	Conner	N'anki, Hiogo, &c.	Mails, &c.	M. B. M. S. S. Co
...	19 W. C. de Vries	Br str	669	Smith	Hankow and Ports	Sundries	G. McBain
...	19 Funsin	Br str	610	Goodfellow	Ningpo	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	19 Glencoe	Br str	2914	Park	S'tow & Singapore	Ballast	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	20 Kolga	Br bq	359	Mitchell	Newchwang	Sundries	Nils Moller
...	20 Queen of England	Siam sh	512	Otten	Bangkok	do	Muster
...	20 Taiwo	Br str	719	Friend	Hankow and Ports	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	20 Tientsin	Br str	682	Robinson	Chefoo	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	20 Fooksang	Br str	990	Hugg	H'kong & Canton	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	20 Inaoudy	Fr str	2347	Pasqualini	Hongkong, &c.	Mails, &c.	Messageries Maritimes
...	20 Kiang-teen	Chi str	1368	Boswell	Ningpo	Sundries	C. M. S. N. Co
...	20 Pautah	Chi str	870	Patterson	Chefoo & Tientsin	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	20 Richmond	U.S. frig	2000	Skerrett	Hongkong	Original	Butterfield and Swire
...	20 Tamsui	Br str	919	Cotter	Chefoo & N'chwang	Tribute Rice	C. M. S. N. Co
...	21 Fung-shun	Chi str	863	Tisdall	Tientsin	Ballast	C. & J. Trading Co
...	21 Benjamin Sewall	Am sh	1362	Ryan	Manila	Sundries	Morris and Co
...	21 Chateaubriand	Br bq	408	Edwards	Chefoo	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	21 El Dorado	Br str	900	Young	Chefoo & Tientsin	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	21 Kiangfoo	Chi str	1468	Morse	Hankow and Ports	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	21 Fushun	Br str	1504	Croard	Tientsin	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	21 Funsin	Br str	610	Goodfellow	Ningpo	do	Morris and Co
...	22 Loongwha	Br 3m-sc	374	Mankin	Tientsin	do	Morris and Co
...	22 Omega	Br bq	480	Brown	Amoy	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	22 Wuchang	Br str	793	Wyles	Tientsin	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	22 Taisang	Br str	1505	Davies	Newchwang	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	22 Peking	Br str	954	Heuermann	S'tow, H'kong & C't	do	Siemens and Co
...	22 Ngankin	Br str	1921	Perks	Hankow and Ports	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	22 Keelung	Br str	919	Clegg	C'foo & N'chwang	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	22 Chefoo	Br str	684	Hutchison	Newchwang	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	22 Amoy	Br str	814	Potts	Newchwang	do	Siemens and Co
...	22 Kiang-teen	Chi str	1368	Boswell	Ningpo	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	22 Yoritomo Maru	Jap str	612	Gall	Kuchinotzu	Ballast	M. B. Kaishia
...	22 Sunl	Br str	261	Scott	Hankow and Ports	Sundries	G. McBain
...	22 Pechili	Br str	880	Hurst	C'foo & N'chwang	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	22 Bencutha	Br str	1338	Lunt	C'foo & N'chwang	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	23 Sin Nanzing	Br str	714	Waddilove	Chefoo & Tientsin	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	23 Taku	Br str	603	Howden	Foochow	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	23 Kang Wo	Br str	737	Flagg	Hankow and Ports	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	24 Greatham Hall	Br str	342	O'Brien	Tientsin	do	Morris and Co
...	24 Funsin	Br str	610	Goodfellow	Ningpo	do	Butterfield and Swire

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